

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

*One Hundred Seventy-Ninth
Annual Convocation*
of the
Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons
of the
State of Missouri

held
JUNE 12, 2026
MARRIOTT ST. LOUIS AIRPORT HOTEL
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI



GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI 179TH ANNUAL CONVOCATION SCHEDULE

<i>Salon I</i>	<i>Grand York Rite Office</i>
<i>Salon II</i>	<i>Vendor, Illinois Masonic Regalia</i>
<i>Salon III</i>	<i>Photographers Room</i>
<i>Salon III</i>	<i>Special Meeting Room</i>
<i>Salon IV</i>	<i>Hospitality Room</i>
<i>Salon V</i>	<i>Small Dining Room</i>

Thursday, June 11, 2026

7:00 a.m.	Registration (<i>Lobby</i>)
6:00 p.m.	Family Fun Night with Dinner & 1920's Murder Mystery and Cash Bar (<i>Ballroom B</i>)
9:30 p.m.	"Old Goats" Meeting (Past Grand High Priests) (<i>Salon III</i>)

Friday, June 12, 2026

7:30 a.m.	Red Cross of Constantine Breakfast – Members Only (<i>Ballroom B</i>) Others, Breakfast – On Your Own
7:00 a.m.	Registration (Credentials Committee) <i>until 11:00 am (Lobby)</i>
9:00 a.m.	Opening Ceremonies and Reception of Distinguished Guests (<i>Ballroom A</i>) Introduction of the Grand Lecturer and the District Deputy Grand Lecturers Introduction of the District Deputy Grand High Priests Introduction of the 2025-2026 Grand Chapter Officers Brief Welcoming Comments by the Grand High Priest Reception of the Past Grand High Priests of Missouri Reception of the Out of State Grand Chapter Officers Reception of the General Grand Chapter Officers Reception of the General Grand High Priest or Representative & brief remarks Reception of the Grand Lodge Officers Reception of the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Missouri & brief remarks Presentation of Awards – Lewis & Clark, Grand Chapter Achievement Awards Summary Address of the Grand High Priest Necrology: Part of the Grand High Priest's Address Grand Chorister Presentation Dismissal of the Ladies and the Non-Member Guests
10:30 a.m.	Formal Opening of the 179th Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri (<i>Ballroom A</i>) Preliminary Report of the Credentials Committee Report of the Committee on the Grand High Priest's Address Report of the Jurisprudence Committee Report of the Finance Committee Report of the Grand Treasurer Report of the Grand Secretary
11:00 a.m.	Election of the 2026-27 Grand Chapter Officers Routine Business & Additional Committee Reports (as needed)

Report of the Election Committee
Acceptance of the Grand Chapter Officers Elect
Report of the Grand High Priest Elect – with Appointments
Report of the Committee on Time and Place
Address of the General Grand High Priest or Representative
Address of the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Missouri or Representative
11:45 a.m. **Grand Chapter Closed or Called from Labor until 3:00 pm**
12:00 p.m. **Lunch – Sponsored by the Tall Cedars of Lebanon** (*Ballroom B*) - Open to All
1:30 p.m. **Order of the High Priesthood** (*Ballroom A*)
3:00 p.m. **Grand Chapter Resumes Labor** (concludes remaining business, if any)
3:30 p.m. **Close of the 179th Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri**
3:45 p.m. **Installation of the 2026-2027 Grand Chapter Officers**, Open to All
Pictures immediately following installation
6:00 pm. **Distinguished Guest Dinner, Entertainment, (Rocking the 80's Trivia), and Cash Bar –**
(*Ballroom B*) Open to All
8:30pm: **Annual Meeting of Palmyra Historical Chapter No. 2** (*Salon III*)

**Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri
2025-2026 Elected and Appointed Officers**

Kevin M. Ritter	Grand High Priest
James E. McManigle.....	Grand King
W. Larry Wilson	Grand Scribe
Russell S. Hanson	Grand Treasurer
Christopher L. Story.....	Assistant Grand Treasurer
Donald MacCormick	Grand Secretary
Donald E. Gilkerson.....	Grand Captain of the Host
Gregory J. Walker	Grand Principal Sojourner
Nicholas R. Young.....	Grand Royal Arch Captain
Steven F. Eberharter.....	Grand Master of the 3rd Veil
Jeffrey L. Fielder-Bey	Grand Master of the 2nd Veil
Richard A. Taylor	Grand Master of the 1st Veil
Christian M. Jessen	Grand Organist
Daniel R. Quesenberry.....	Grand Chorister
Roy L. Gilkey, PGHP	Grand Historian
John C. Caraker.....	Grand Lecturer
Timothy S. Southard	Grand Lecturer-West
W. Stuart English	Grand Lecturer-East
Matthew D. Ruth.....	Grand Chaplain
James S. Bell, III	Assistant Grand Chaplain
Jeffery A. Stokes.....	Grand Sentinel
Ryan B. Hart	Assistant Grand Sentinel
Daniel J. Dove.....	Assistant Grand Sentinel
Donald G. Bell	Assistant Grand Sentinel
Jonathan M. Turner	Assistant Grand Sentinel
Larry E. Murphy	Assistant Grand Sentinel
Larry F. Walters	Grand Photographer
Mark A. Bean.....	Assistant Grand Photographer
Debbie L. Hanson	Executive Assistant to the Grand Secretary

District Deputy Grand High Priests

Craig A. Nowell	District Deputy Grand High Priest, Region 1
Bobbie E. White.....	District Deputy Grand High Priest, Region 2
Benjamin R. Caimi.....	District Deputy Grand High Priest, Region 3
Michael J. Estright	District Deputy Grand High Priest, Region 4
Thomas O. Stevenson	District Deputy Grand High Priest, Region 5
Douglas Chester Rose, Jr	District Deputy Grand High Priest, Region 6
Randy W. Presley	District Deputy Grand High Priest, Region 7, District A
Derik B. Campbell	District Deputy Grand High Priest, Region 7, District B

District Deputy Grand Lecturers

Jeffrey L. Knight.....	District Deputy Grand Lecturer, Region 1
Jessie D. Morrison	District Deputy Grand Lecturer, Region 2
William R. Jennens	District Deputy Grand Lecturer, Region 3
Wayne B. Fryer.....	District Deputy Grand Lecturer, Region 4
Tommy G. Cupples.....	District Deputy Grand Lecturer, Region 5
Christopher A. Wehrenberg	District Deputy Grand Lecturer, Region 6
Gerald R. Hill	District Deputy Grand Lecturer, Region 7, District A
Matthew D. Ruth.....	District Deputy Grand Lecturer, Region 7, District B

Standing Committees

Address of the Grand High Priest

Michael L. Dodd, Chairman
Mark A. Bean

Credentials

Phillip W. Engel, Chairman
Randy L. Presley
Kenny Shumard
Kevin L. Swain
Michael J. Estright

Education

Gregory J. Walker, Chairman
James S. Bell, III
Lloyd G. Lyon
Donald MacCormick
Nicholas R. Young
Douglas C. Rose, Jr.

Finance

James E. McManigle, Chairman
W. Larry Wilson
Donald E. Gilkerson
Elected Grand Chapter Officers
Russell S. Hanson (Ex-Officio)

Donald MacCormick (Ex-Officio)
Kevin B. Sample (Ex-Officio)

Jurisprudence

Todd A. Schulze, Chairman
William G. Snyder, Vice Chairman
John C. Caraker
Adam M. Iwanow
Kevin B. Sample

Returns of Chapters

Steven F. Eberharter, Chairman
Loren D. Lloyd
Christopher L. Story
Richard A. Taylor

Time and Place

James E. McManigle, Chairman
Terry D. Coppotelli
Taz A. Meyer
Donald MacCormick
Roger D. Fleer
Russell S. Hanson

Special Committees

Annual Convocation

Kevin M. Ritter, Chairman
Russell S. Hanson
Donald MacCormick
Tara Ornsbey
Dennis W. Houck
Kevin B. Sample
Ronald L. Skiles

Charity

James E. McManigle, Chairman
Michael L. Dodd
Donald E. Gilkerson
Steven D. Bright
Douglas C. Rose, Jr.

Endowed Membership

W. Larry Wilson, Chairman
Russell S. Hanson
David L. Leirer
Donald MacCormick

Examiners

Gregory J. Walker, Chairman
Dr. John W. Siscel, III

Grand Masters Invitational

John C. Caraker, Chairman
Kyle R. Palacios
Donald MacCormick
Gregory J. Walker

Investments

Terry D. Coppotelli, Chairman
Adam M. Iwanow
Jeffery Fielder-Bey
James E. McManigle

Membership Recruitment

Douglas C. Rose, Jr., Chairman
James S. Bell, III
Michael J. Estright
Kevin B. Sample
Nicholas R. Young
District Deputy Grand High Priests

Publications

W. Larry Wilson, Chairman/Chief Editor
Roger D. Fleer
Russell S. Hanson
Lloyd G. Lyon
Donald MacCormick
Kevin B. Sample
Michael S. Smith
Jacob W. Thompson

York Rite Conference

James E. McManigle, Chairman
Terry D. Coppotelli
Taz A. Meyer

Ritual

John C. Caraker, Chairman

W. Stuart English
Timothy S. Southard
Nicholas R. Young
District Deputy Grand Lecturers

Royal Arch Research Assistance

Gregory J. Walker, Chairman
Jeffery Fielder-Bey
Kyle R. Palacios
Douglas C. Rose, Jr.

Social Media/Communications/Internet

Donald MacCormick, Chairman/Web Master
Gregory J. Walker

Strategic Planning

Kevin M. Ritter, Chairman
Donald MacCormick
James E. McManigle
W. Larry Wilson

Youth Activities

Adam M. Iwanow, Chairman
David L. Leirer
Michael S. Smith
Larry F. Walters
W. Larry Wilson

Order of High Priesthood

Jeffery A. Stokes, Secretary

Living Past Grand High Priests

Gene M. Zinn	1981-1982	Loren D. Lloyd	2015-2016
Richard D. Carroll	1987-1988	John W. Siscel, III	2016-2017
Ralph S. Cantrell, Jr.	2000-2001	Jerry L. Miles	2018-2019
Roy A. Welshon, Sr.	2002-2003	David L. Leirer	2019-2021
Kevin B. Sample, Honorary	2005	Kyle R. Palacios	2021-2023
Steven C. Monrotus	2011-2012	Mark A. Bean	2023-2024
John E. Schofield	2012-2013	Russell S. Hanson, Honorary	2024
Roy L. Gilkey	2013-2014	Michael L. Dodd	2024-2025
Roy N. Thomas	2014-2015	Kevin M. Ritter	2025-2026



Kevin M. Ritter
Grand High Priest, 2025-2026

BIOGRAPHY OF THE GRAND HIGH PRIEST

Kevin Michael Ritter was born on April 10, 1990, in Springfield, Missouri to parents Timothy L. Ritter and Marline M. Faherty. He has one younger brother, Corey Douglas Ritter, who resides in Blue Springs, Missouri. Kevin grew up in Fair Grove, Missouri, and attended kindergarten through twelfth grade at Fair Grove Schools, where he graduated in May 2008. He then attended Drury University in Springfield, receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in May 2012. He is currently pursuing a Master of Arts in Communication and expects to graduate in May 2027. While attending Drury as an undergraduate, he met his best friend, closest confidante, and partner, Cecily Karin Robertson. They have been happily unmarried since October 26, 2009. They have two cats (Merlin and Cosmo), a nephew, and two godsons. They currently reside in Springfield, Missouri.

Kevin began his professional career working at Drury University for a year after graduation before moving to American National Property and Casualty Company (ANPAC), where he worked in the Underwriting department for eight years before deciding to return to higher education. He currently works as Assistant Director of Housing Operations at Drury University, overseeing a residence hall, apartment residences, and four fraternity houses, and works to address facilities issues in residential areas across Drury's 90-acre campus. He also co-advises the University's Student Government Association.

Kevin began his Masonic career by petitioning Solomon Lodge No. 271 in Springfield for membership in 2011. He served Solomon Lodge as Worshipful Master in 2016-2017 and is an endowed member. He affiliated as an endowed member with Fellowship Lodge No. 345 in 2021. He is also a member of Hiram-Takoma Lodge No. 10 and John Philip Sousa Lodge No. 1106 in Washington, District of Columbia. He received the Capitular Degrees in Springfield Chapter No. 15, Cryptic Degrees in Zabud Council No. 25, and Chivalric Orders in St. John's Commandery No. 20 in May 2011, and went on to serve as High Priest, Master, and Commander of the York Rite bodies in Springfield. He served the Grand Commandery as Assistant Grand Lecturer – South from 2022-2024 and Regional Grand Commander for Region 7A from 2023-2024. He served the Grand Chapter as District Deputy Grand Lecturer of Region 7A and was elected to the Grand Chapter Line in 2018.

Kevin is a 32nd Degree Knight Commander of the Court of Honor (KCCH) and endowed member in the Scottish Rite Valley of Joplin. He served as Commander of Joplin Council of Kadosh in 2019, was a Scottish Rite Fellow in 2016, and currently serves as the Assistant Director of the Wardrobe Committee and Degree Director of the 27th degree (Knight Commander of the Temple).

He is also a member of Tipperary Council No. 62, Knight Masons; Robert Harris Bray Council No. 513, Allied Masonic Degrees; Marquis de La Fayette Council No. 392, Allied Masonic Degrees; Mysterium Magnum Council No. 543, Allied Masonic Degrees; Ray V. Denslow College No. 180, YRSCNA; Court of Discovery No. 3, Masonic Order of Athelstan; Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis (SRICF); Royal Order of Scotland; Springfield Preceptory, Yeomen of York; St. Christopher Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine; Springfield Chapter No. 84, National Sojourners; House of Lords Tabernacle No. LXXII, HRAKTP; Mark Twain Forest No. 202, Tall Cedars of Lebanon; Order of the Past Master; Order of High Priesthood; Order of the Silver Trowel; Missouri Past Commanders Association; Scottish Rite Research Society; and the Grand College of Rites.

His hobbies outside of Freemasonry include reading, playing video games, homebrewing beer, and traveling.

179TH ANNUAL CONVOCATION

The public opening, introductions, and reception of distinguished guests convened promptly at 9:00 a.m., Friday June 12, 2026 at the Marriott St. Louis Airport Hotel, St. Louis.

RIC Donald MacCormick, Grand Secretary started proceedings with the introduction of the Regional Grand High Priests. MEC Kevin M. Ritter welcomed the DDGHPs and thanked them for their service.

Region 1	Craig A. Nowell	present
Region 2	Bobbie E. White	present
Region 3	Benjamin R. Caimi	excused
Region 4	Michael J. Estright	present
Region 5	Thomas O. Stevenson	present
Region 6	Douglas Chester Rose, Jr	present
Region 7A.....	Randy W. Presley	present
Region 7B.....	Derik B. Campbell	present

The Regional Grand Lectures were introduced and VEC John C. Caraker, Grand Lecturer welcomed the DDGLs and thanked them for their service and for their dedication to promoting ritual.

Region 1	Jeffrey L. Knight	present
Region 2	Jessie D. Morrison	present
Region 3	William R. Jennens	present
Region 4	Wayne B. Fryer	present
Region 5	Tommy G. Cupples	present
Region 6	Christopher A. Wehrenberg	present
Region 7A.....	Gerald R. Hill	present
Region 7B.....	Matthew D. Ruth	present

Right Excellent Companion Donald MacCormick introduced the entire Grand Chapter Line of Officers who took their stations. Most Excellent Companion Ritter was very well received with a standing ovation, the Grand Honors, and escorted to the east by REC MacCormick.

RECEPTION OF THE PAST GRAND HIGH PRIESTS OF MISSOURI



Introductions continued with the following Past Grand High Priests of Missouri present, *(left to right)*: MEC Michael Leon Dodd (2024-2025), MEC Mark Alan Bean (2023-2024), MEC Kyle Ramon Palacios (2021-2023), MEC David Lee Leirer (2019-2021), MEC John William Siscel, III (2016-2017), MEC Loren Dale Lloyd (2015-2016), and MEC Kevin Brian Sample (2005), Honorary.

The Past Grand High Priests received the Grand Honors, and MEC Loren D. Lloyd gave brief remarks on behalf on the Past Grand High Priests. All were received in the east by the Grand Scribe, Grand King, and Grand High Priest.

RECEPTION OF THE HEADS OF MISSOURI BODIES



(from left to right): Excellent Companion Terry D. Coppotelli, Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Missouri and Most Illustrious Companion Dennis Wayne Houck, Grand Master of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of Missouri. Following the Grand Honors, MEC Ritter thanked them for the honor of serving and working with these distinguished companions and received them in the East.

RECEPTION OF OTHER JURISDICTION GRAND OR PAST GRAND HIGH PRIESTS



(from left to right): MEC William Keith Powell, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Louisiana; MEC Byron Eugene Hams, Past Grand High Priest of the Holy Royal Arch Grand Chapter of Missouri, Prince Hall Affiliation; and MEC Anthony Radosti, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Louisiana

RECEPTION OF GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER OFFICERS



MEC Kevin Brian Sample, Missouri Ambassador to the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, International received the Grand Honors and was presented through the east.

VEC Jeffery L. Fielder-Bey escorted Most Excellent Companion Michael Arnold Watts west of the altar for reception. MEC Watts, Grand Governor of Louisiana of the York Rite Sovereign College of North America; Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Louisiana; Deputy General Grand High Priest of the South-Central Region of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, International; and Personal Representative of Most Excellent Companion Teko Anani Foly, General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, International Following introduction and the Grand Honors, MEC Ritter escorted MEC Watts to the east, where MEC Watts made brief welcoming remarks.



RECEPTION OF GRAND LODGE OFFICERS



(from right to left): EC Terry Dean Coppotelli Junior Grand Deacon, VEC Ashley W. Young Senior Grand Steward, EC Mitch C. Weinsting Senior Grand Marshall, VEC Chris M. Jessen Grand Musician (*seated*), EC Budd C. Gilfillen Grand Pursuivant, VEC W. Stuart English Grand Pursuivant, VEC Russell A. Bradshaw Grand Orator, VEC Michael J. Estright Grand Chaplain, EC Tha L. Kribbs Grand Chaplain, and EC John C Cross Grand Chaplain. All were received through the east.

RECEPTION OF PAST GRAND MASTERS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MISSOURI



VEC Richard A. Taylor escorted Very Excellent Companion Stanton Thayer Brown, II, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Missouri (2019-2020) west of the altar. Following the Grand Honors, he was received through the east.

RECEPTION OF THE GRAND MASTER OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MISSOURI



VEC Richard A. Taylor escorted Most Worshipful Brother Emmett J. Bryson, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Missouri west of the altar where he was introduced and received the Grand Honors. MEC Ritter escorted MWB Bryson to the east, where MWB Bryson made brief introductory remarks.

At 9:30 a.m., the introduction of distinguished guests being completed - the open portion of the Grand Chapter Convocation continued with the presentation of Awards: 2026 Distinguished Chapter Awards, 2026 Lewis and Clark Awards, and 2026 Membership Increase Awards. The recipients of all these awards are listed in the *Report of the Committee on Education* further in these proceedings.

2026 RITUAL PROFICIENCIES



The Grand Chapter Certificate Plan for Capitular Masonry consists of five sections covering all ritualistic aspects of the Opening and Closing, and Degree Conferrals of the Royal Arch. In the last 12 months there have been 18 Ritual Instructor Cards Earned. The following ritual proficiencies were celebrated and all ritual instructors were received through the east.

Part 1 Complete Opening and Closing of a Chapter

Gerald R. Hill Lebanon Chapter No. 64; Allen L. Ward Rolla Chapter No. 32; John C. Caraker Oriental-Rabboni Chapter No. 78; Wayne B. Fryer Rolla Chapter No. 32; Tom G. Cupples, Jr. St. Charles Missouri Chapter No. 1; Lahiri D. Powell Bolivar Chapter No. 5; Michael J. Rice Springfield Chapter No. 15; and Kevin M. Ritter Springfield Chapter No. 15.

Part 2 Mark Master Degree, the work in its entirety

Gregory J. Walker Springfield Chapter No. 15

Part 3 Past Master Degree, the work in its entirety

Gregory J. Walker Springfield Chapter No. 15 and John C. Caraker Oriental-Rabboni Chapter No. 78.

Part 4, Section A Most Excellent Master Degree, the first section in its entirety

Gregory J. Walker Springfield Chapter No. 15.

Part 4, Section B Most Excellent Master Degree, King Solomon

Gregory J. Walker Springfield Chapter No. 15

Part 4, Section C Most Excellent Master Degree, Lecture and Charge

Tom G. Cupples, Jr. St. Charles Missouri Chapter No. 1.

Part 5, Section B Royal Arch Degree, Principal Sojourner:

Tom G. Cupples, Jr. St. Charles Missouri Chapter No. 1.

Part 5, Section D Royal Arch Degree, Lecture and Charge

James S. Bell, III Bellefontaine Chapter No. 25; Tom G. Cupples, Jr. St. Charles Missouri Chapter No. 1; and Lahiri D. Powell Bolivar Chapter No. 5.

THE GRAND LADY OF YORK SPECIAL AWARD

MEC Ritter then discussed one additional special award - the Grand Lady of York. There are only two other Missouri recipients for this prestigious award – Karen Lloyd and Cristi Mansfield. There was an astonishing amount of much work to be done in re-organizing the finances of the Grand Chapter, Grand Council, and Grand Commandery and part of the process in righting ourselves was getting back in compliance with the IRS.

Lady April Dodd took the results of the work our Grand Treasurer had completed over the last couple of years, made sense of them all, and worked diligently to get all three Grand York Rite Bodies back in compliance with the IRS. That work was successful, and we thank Lady Dodd for that work, and for her support. MEC Michael Dodd will present the Grand Lady of York to his Lady April next week!

VETERAN'S SERVICE MEDAL



In a moving presentation Col. Douglas Chester Rose, Jr. (retired), presented MEC Kevin B. Sample with the General Grand Chapter Veteran's Service Medal.

ROYAL ARCH RESEARCH DONATIONS

MEC Ritter asked if there were any charitable donations that any companion wished to make. The following donations to RARA (Royal Arch Research Assistance) were then presented:

Wilson No. 75	\$250.00
Caldwell No. 53	\$2,613.50
Tyrian No. 52	\$1,300.00
Wilson No. 75	\$20.00
Bolivar No. 5	\$1,138.70
Springfield No. 15	\$1,167.00
Triune No. 93	\$1,200.00
Region 6	\$3,100.00

Most Excellent Companion Ritter then delivered his Address, VEC Matthew D. Ruth hosted the necrology service with VEC Daniel R. Quesenberry singing “Because He Lives”.

Following the completion of the Grand High Priest’s Address and comments, VEC Daniel R. Quesenberry performed the 1983 version of God Bless the USA.

Most Excellent Companion Kevin M. Ritter thanked all guests and dismissed all non-Royal Arch Masons for the formal opening of the 179th Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Missouri.

179TH ANNUAL CONVOCATION

MORNING SESSION

The Grand Chapter was opened in full form by the Grand Officers present. Following the formal opening VEC Phillip W. Engel, Chairman of the Committee on Credentials reported there was a constitutional number present.

The reports of the Committee as listed in the Reports section of the proceeding were presented, discussed, moved, seconded, and passed. At 11:00 a.m. the election of officers took place. There were three (3) nomination for Grand Master of the 1st Veil.

Past High Priests nominated: John Charles Caraker

Nominations from the floor: Steven F. Eberharter, (Rolla No. 32), nominated Gary Ray Woodruff
Matthew Neal Moore, (Caldwell No. 53), nominated William Joseph King

The first ballot was declared void due to over 40% spoiled ballots. Following discussion with Jurisprudence, the election was scheduled to continue in the afternoon session with a simplified ballot. The business of the Chapter continued with reports from the Assistant Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder, Committee on Finance, and Jurisprudence.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The Grand Chapter resumed labor at 3:00 p.m. with the Election of Officers resuming. The Grand Chapter voted overwhelmingly to advance the current line of Officers and retaining the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary with the Grand Master of the 1st veil inconclusive. John C. Caraker won the supplement ballot for Grand Master of the 1st Veil.

While the ballots were being counted Most Excellent Companion Michael Arnold Watts brought greetings from the General Grand High Priest and thanked the companions of Missouri for their hospitality over the last 3 years during his term in office as the Deputy General Grand High Priest of the South-Central Region of the General

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, International. MEC Ritter presented MEC Watts with his favorite tippie, a bottle of Makers Mark. MEC William Keith Powell Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Louisiana brought greetings.

Following acceptance of the election results, and the acceptance of the newly elected officers; it was moved, seconded, and approved to destroy the 2025 ballots.

MWB Emmett Bryson Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Missouri spoke to the importance of the Royal Arch, and its connection to his message for the year “Building Success: Founded on Legacy, Chiseled with Vision”.

REC James E. McManigle announced his appointments for the coming year, and the 179th Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri was closed in due form with the installation of officers to take place at 3:55 p.m.

ADDRESS OF THE GRAND HIGH PRIEST AND REPORTS

ADDRESS OF THE GRAND HIGH PRIEST

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri,

Grand Officers, Past Grand High Priests, Companions, Visitors, and Guests, please accept a hearty welcome to this One-Hundred Seventy-Ninth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri. Thank you so much for being here with us this morning, and it is my sincere hope that you will find the session to be enjoyable. To say that it has been an honor and privilege to serve this Grand Chapter as Grand High Priest this year would be an understatement. I am still humbled and in awe of the opportunity granted me by this august body last June. My message for the year was Be Excellent To Each Other, and I hope my term as Grand High Priest has met with your expectations of excellence.

No one can successfully lead alone. There are several who I leaned on this year while serving this Grand Chapter, and I wish to take a few moments to say thank you. Thank you to the officers I had the distinct pleasure of serving alongside this year. You have been a great support to me, and I count myself lucky to have been able to work with each of you during my term. I would also like to thank the Past Grand High Priests for their leadership and advice, particularly Most Excellent Companion Mark A. Bean and Most Excellent Companion Kevin B. Sample. Thank you to Tina Woolsey, Tara Ornsbey, and Debbie Hanson, for the many hours of work each of you have put into this session and for being available any time I had questions. This session would not be a success without you. Thank you to the many Companions I was able to meet and visit with during my travels throughout the state this year – our Chapters are in great hands. Finally, and most importantly, I would like to say thank you to my partner, Cecily Robertson. You have been my rock, my support, my confidante, and most importantly of all, my best friend. I am thankful every day that I get to do life with you and thank you for your love and support this year and every day.

Necrology

We have had many losses this past year. A Memorial Service will be led by VEC Matthew D. Ruth, our Grand Chaplain, followed by a Hymn by our Grand Chorister VEC Daniel Quesenberry.

Memorial Service

One by one, they pass beyond the veil: the brothers of our adoption and the companions of our choice. A brother whose hand we have clasped in the bonds of fraternal fellowship has now vanished from our sight, and we know that we shall meet him on this earth no more.

The Grand Chapter records that 75 of our chosen companions have now completed their earthly labors. We pause today to reflect not only on their absence but on the enduring impact they have left upon our lives and our Order.

Most notable among these were MEC Charles A. Bottermuller Grand High Priest (1970-1971), who passed to the Celestial Chapter on June 7, 2025 and MEC E. Allen Kohler Grand High Priest, 1975-1976. Their leadership and devotion remain a beacon for us all.

With each passing, we are reminded of our own mortality. We are compelled to examine the structures we have built with our lives and the legacy we will leave behind. "Will you be remembered?" is perhaps the most daunting question we can ask ourselves.

Let us, therefore, hasten to secure the passport of a righteous and upright life. Look to the examples of those who have gone before us, my companions, and let their memory guide our decisions. Work while it is yet day, for the night approaches when no man shall labor further in this earthly realm. Though they have passed from our sight, we hold the firm belief that their labors continue in that eternal home—a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. Let us forever cherish their memory, emulate their virtues,

and look forward in faith to that happy reunion in the Grand Chapter on High, where sorrow and parting are known no more.

Let us now rise and observe a moment of silent reflection in their honor.

Amen.

(Reporting period 1/1/2025-05/01/2026)

Name	Date of Birth	Date of Death	Chapter
Bayliff, Larry W.	10/29/36	2/27/25	15 - Springfield
Beck, Edward L.	12/7/45	10/29/25	{ 38 - Greenfield}
Bottermuller, Charles A.	5/29/27	6/7/25	34 - Jefferson City
Bray, Glenn Longest	1/9/48	3/3/25	102 - Orient
Briscoe, Robert Lloyd	1/3/31	1/23/25	17 - Columbia
Burkhart, Jerald W.	10/7/40	4/29/25	38 - Greenfield
Burns, Michael D.	6/1/44	7/28/25	34 - Jefferson City
Busey, David L.	4/25/61	7/11/25	14 - Mitchell
Clawson, William Bland	12/14/30	11/13/25	43 - Wyoming
Cooper, Charles Edward	3/2/56	3/8/25	53 - Caldwell
Craft, Columbus	5/11/29	11/19/25	32 - Rolla
Crites, John Enos	12/27/26	1/2/26	75 - Wilson
Dever, Casey Roy	6/15/53	9/27/25	3 - Liberty
Eaton, Zelwin B.	6/23/43	7/7/25	53 - Caldwell
Edel, Charles B.	6/17/34	3/9/26	15 - Springfield
Erfurdt Jr., John L.	6/19/42	4/9/26	25 - Bellefontaine
Ferrier, Craig Eugene	9/25/53	10/6/25	91 - Joplin
Foreman, Charles Lee	1/1/38	5/8/25	99 - Shelbyna
Gilstrap, William Everett	10/20/44	10/18/25	52 - Tyrian
Girten, Charles William	6/3/35	7/3/25	43 - Wyoming
Gleason, Cole Douglas	12/1/54	1/2/25	53 - Caldwell
Green, Ronnie Edward	11/7/45	8/9/25	78 - Oriental-Rabboni
Hardy, James D.	11/2/49	12/3/25	91 - Joplin
Hattaway, James T.	9/12/46	1/8/26	102 - Orient
Heim, Gary G.	8/21/43	4/29/25	93 - Triune
Heitmeyer, James C.	9/20/22	3/29/26	10 - Lexington
Helton, Russell Burnell	11/13/34	7/19/25	53 - Caldwell
Holmes, Thomas Everett	8/4/49	11/1/25	43 - Wyoming
Huggins, Donald Lynn	1/6/48	1/13/25	102 - Orient
Jackson, William Everett	8/10/39	12/5/25	15 - Springfield
Jeffers, Michael William	6/13/55	3/3/25	102 - Orient
Jones, Carl Donald	10/8/40	3/21/25	53 - Caldwell
Jones, David Wayne	12/15/57	8/28/25	61 - Meridian Sun
Kachulis, Paul William	2/12/54	3/22/25	53 - Caldwell
Kolar, Marion	9/29/26	1/5/25	15 - Springfield
Koontz, George William	12/4/28	8/12/25	53 - Caldwell

Kuntz, Richard K.	2/9/36	3/28/25	14 - Mitchell
Leggans, James Ray	11/24/64	6/6/25	14 - Mitchell
Leslie, James Nelson	12/9/39	10/13/25	114 - Poplar Bluff
Long, Robert William	1/26/35	4/25/25	17 - Columbia
Lynch, Robert E.	9/14/31	10/5/25	14 - Mitchell
Malotte, Curtis E	10/18/43	11/20/25	14 - Mitchell
Mason, Alfred Lavern	5/6/27	4/26/25	75 - Wilson
Mathis, Eddie H.	10/4/39	8/6/25	1 - St. Charles Missouri
McMillian, Dale E.	8/17/26	8/24/25	3 - Liberty
Morgan, Harold E.	11/11/34	11/28/25	5 - Bolivar
Morgan, James Clifton	11/4/45	12/25/25	64 - Lebanon
Newman Jr., Lawrence Areon	12/19/41	3/19/25	53 - Caldwell
Norris, Donald	11/25/36	2/26/26	123 - Putnam
Nutter, Allen W.	12/25/47	3/12/25	64 - Lebanon
O'Reilly, Charles	1/1/36	6/13/25	123 - Putnam
Painter, David Harlen	7/18/47	5/18/25	32 - Rolla
Pierce, Norman Eddy	3/18/29	2/16/25	17 - Columbia
Pierce, Ted Edward	11/23/40	4/19/25	14 - Mitchell
Quigley, Rodney D.	8/22/45	5/15/25	14 - Mitchell
Ragan, William David	1/1/31	1/30/25	53 - Caldwell
Rayot, Charles E.	6/18/38	2/26/26	146 - Keystone
Reed, James M.	unknown	3/4/25	25 - Bellefontaine
Rogers, Jack	1/1/44	2/2/26	43 - Wyoming
Roslawski, Michael Steven	10/30/56	7/25/25	1 - St. Charles Missouri
Ross, Robert W.	12/11/56	6/6/25	75 - Wilson
Schlichter, Robert William	8/1/44	4/12/25	3 - Liberty
Sellers, Stephen Wentworth	1/1/26	9/30/25	10 - Lexington
Squires, John Patrick	11/24/35	12/13/25	15 - Springfield
Stankey, Robert T.	7/30/46	7/27/25	1 - St. Charles Missouri
Thompson, Michael Skelton	10/23/49	10/9/25	14 - Mitchell
Vernon, Jackie Allen	11/4/46	4/30/25	14 - Mitchell
Vogel, Harry Wayne	7/11/36	12/27/25	14 - Mitchell
Wade, Victor Hayden	7/9/44	2/10/25	34 - Jefferson City
Waggoner Sr., James Gilbert	5/16/40	9/6/25	102 - Orient
Waite, Steve C.	1/11/42	10/12/25	7 - Hannibal
Warren, Douglas	7/29/50	9/5/25	43 - Wyoming
White, Juan A.	9/23/62	1/30/26	1 - St. Charles Missouri
Wisely, Richard Leroy	12/24/47	2/13/26	12 - Independence
Wunder, Dr. Gene Carroll	2/11/39	9/23/25	53 - Caldwell

Fraternally submitted,
Matthew D. Ruth, Grand Chaplain

Visitations

May 24, 2025	Grand York Rite Officer Training, Columbia
June 11-15, 2025	Missouri Grand York Rite Sessions, Kansas City
June 21, 2025	House of Lords Tabernacle No. 72, Springfield
June 26, 2025	Missouri Job's Daughters Grand Session, Jefferson City
July 13, 2025	Grand Chapter Officers Meeting, Online
July 19, 2025	Grand Session Planning Meeting, Jefferson City
July 19, 2025	Missouri Priory No. 17, KYCH, Jefferson City
July 20, 2025	Grand York Rite Time Capsule Visit, Branson
July 25, 2025	Springfield Chapter No. 15 Bourbon Tasting Fundraiser, Springfield
July 26, 2025	Mysterium Magnum Council No. 543, AMD, Ozark
July 28, 2025	Official Visit to Springfield Chapter No. 15, Springfield
July 28, 2025	Zabud Council No. 25, Springfield
July 28, 2025	St. Johns Commandery No. 20, Springfield
July 29, 2025	St. Christopher Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, Springfield
August 9, 2025	Grand Master's Reception, Cape Girardeau
August 10, 2025	Grand Chapter Officers Meeting, Online
August 25, 2025	Springfield Chapter No. 15, Springfield
August 25, 2025	Zabud Council No. 25, Official Visit of the Grand Master, Springfield
August 25, 2025	St. Johns Commandery No. 20, Springfield
September 1, 2025	Official Visit to Rolla Chapter No. 32, Rolla
September 5-6, 2025	Statewide York Rite Conference, St. James
September 6, 2025	Grand High Priest's Reception, Springfield
September 10, 2025	Grand Session Planning Meeting, Online
September 14, 2025	Grand York Rite Publication Committee Meeting, Online
September 14, 2025	Grand Chapter Officers Meeting, Online
September 16, 2025	Official Visit to Tyrian Chapter No. 52, Neosho
September 18-20, 2025	South Central York Rite Conference, League City, Texas
September 20-22, 2025	Grand Lodge of Missouri, Kansas City
October 24-25, 2025	Scottish Rite Reunion, Joplin
October 25, 2025	Mysterium Magnum Council No. 543, AMD, Joplin
October 27, 2025	Springfield Chapter No. 15, 50-Year Pin Presentation, Springfield
October 27, 2025	Zabud Council No. 25, Springfield
October 27, 2025	St. Johns Commandery No. 20, Springfield
November 1, 2025	Zabud Council No. 25 Table Council, Springfield
November 3, 2025	Official Visit to Jefferson City Chapter No. 34, Jefferson City
November 6, 2025	Joplin Scottish Rite Valley Council, Joplin
November 9, 2025	Grand York Rite Publication Committee Meeting, Online
November 9, 2025	Grand Chapter Officers Meeting, Online
November 10, 2025	Solomon Lodge No. 271, Stated Meeting, Springfield
November 11, 2025	Grand Session Planning Meeting, Online
November 19, 2025	Official Visit to Bolivar Chapter No. 5, Bolivar
November 20, 2025	Official Visit to Meridian Sun Chapter No. 61, Carthage
December 2, 2025	Official Visit to Joplin Chapter No. 91, Joplin
December 3, 2025	Joplin Scottish Rite Valley Council, Waynesville
December 8, 2025	Official Visit to Columbia Chapter No. 17, Columbia
December 13, 2025	House of Lords Tabernacle No. 72, Springfield
December 14, 2025	Grand York Rite Publication Committee Meeting, Online
December 14, 2025	Grand Chapter Officers Meeting, Online
January 6, 2026	St. Christopher Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, Springfield
January 10, 2026	Tipperary Council No. 62, Knight Masons, Boonville

January 10, 2026	Marquis de La Fayette Council No. 392, Allied Masonic Degrees, Boonville
January 10, 2026	Robert Harris Bray Council No. 513, Allied Masonic Degrees, Boonville
January 11, 2026	Grand York Rite Publication Committee Meeting, Online
January 11, 2026	Grand Chapter Officers Meeting, Online
January 20, 2026	Official Visit to Lebanon Chapter No. 64, Lebanon
January 30, 2026	Regions 4, 6, and 7 Table Chapter, Lebanon
January 31, 2026	Ray V. Denslow York Rite College No. 180, Springfield
January 31, 2026	Mysterium Magnum Council No. 543, AMD, Neosho
February 4-7, 2026	AMD Masonic Week, Washington, D.C.
February 17, 2026	Grand Session Planning Meeting, Online
February 23, 2026	Springfield Chapter No. 15, Springfield
February 23, 2026	Zabud Council No. 25, Springfield
February 23, 2026	St. Johns Commandery No. 20, Springfield
February 26-28, 2026	Grand York Rite of Louisiana, Alexandria, Louisiana
March 7, 2026	Grand Master's Royal Arch Day, Jefferson City
March 8, 2026	Grand York Rite Publication Committee Meeting, Online
March 8, 2026	Grand Chapter Officers Meeting, Online
March 9, 2026	Official Visit to Nevada Chapter No. 56, Nevada
March 12-14, 2026	Grand York Rite of Arkansas, Little Rock, Arkansas
March 28, 2026	Grand Master's Cryptic Day, Columbia
April 9, 2026	Official Visit to Poplar Bluff Chapter No. 114, Poplar Bluff
April 12, 2026	Grand Chapter Officers Meeting, Online
April 21, 2026	Official Visit to Wilson Chapter No. 75, Jackson
April 23-25, 2026	Grand York Rite of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
April 25, 2026	Mysterium Magnum Council No. 543, AMD, Ozark
May 16, 2026	175th Anniversary and Rededication of Springfield Chapter No. 15, Springfield
May 23, 2026	Missouri DeMolay Session, Cape Girardeau
May 30, 2026	Ray V. Denslow York Rite College No. 180, Springfield
May 31, 2026	Missouri Rainbow Session, Branson
May 31, 2026	Grand York Rite Time Capsule Visit with MIC Dennis Houck, Branson
June 10-14, 2026	Grand York Rite of Missouri, St. Louis

Grand High Priest Coins

I continued the tradition of having a coin struck to commemorate my term as Grand High Priest and directed that the proceeds would be donated to Royal Arch Research Assistance (RARA). I am pleased to report that, at the time of this writing, we have raised over \$2500 to contribute to RARA through coin sales. Thank you, Companions, for your support of our charity and our work to support research in Central Auditory Processing Disorder (CAPD).

Proficiency Card Program

I am also pleased to report that I was able to follow through on the commitment I made when I was installed in this office and received my Grand Chapter proficiency card in March 2026. I would encourage the Grand Officers to work to obtain or renew their proficiency card, as well as encouraging all Chapter officers to work on becoming proficient in opening and closing your Chapters. Our ritual is one of the keystones of our Craft. It is what sets us apart from any charitable or philanthropic organization. The importance of our ritual cannot be understated, and I am so proud of the many Companions who took up the challenge this year and obtained or renewed their proficiency cards.

Time Capsule



I had two occasions to visit the Grand York Rite time capsule in Branson, MO this year, first on July 20, 2025, with my father, and then again on May 31, 2026, with Most Illustrious Companion Dennis W. Houck, Grand Master, and Sir Knight Terry D. Coppotelli, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

The monument is in good condition, and I really appreciated the opportunity to visit the site, after being unable in years past to find a time to visit with Past Grand High Priests. I noted similar concerns as previous Grand High Priests, particularly observing a few cracks and some spots where the silicone needs resealed. I would recommend that a monument company be contacted to clean and buff the monument, reseat the silicone, and thoroughly inspect to determine whether structural repairs are necessary.

Edicts Issued

None issued.

Charters Arrested

None

Consolidations

December 12, 2025 Approved the consolidation of Greenfield Chapter No. 38 with Springfield Chapter No. 15
effective December 9, 2025

Appointments

It was my pleasure to appoint the following Very Excellent Companions as officers of our Grand Chapter for 2025-2026 capitular year.

Mark Alan Bean	Assistant Grand Photographer
Larry Fred Walters	Grand Photographer
Larry Earl Murphy	Assistant Grand Sentinel
Jonathan Martin Turner	Assistant Grand Sentinel
Donald Glenn Bell	Assistant Grand Sentinel
Daniel James Dove	Assistant Grand Sentinel
Ryan B. Hart	Assistant Grand Sentinel
Jeff Allen Stokes	Grand Sentinel
Matthew David Ruth	Grand Chaplain
MEC Roy Lavern Gilkey	Grand Historian
Christian Michael Jessen	Grand Organist
Daniel Roy Quesenberry	Grand Chorister
Timothy Shane Southard	Regional Grand Lecturer West
William Stuart English	Regional Grand Lecturer East
John Charles Caraker	Grand Lecturer
Craig Arnold Nowell	DDGHP, Region 1
Bobbie Edward White	DDGHP, Region 2
Benjamin Robert Caimi	DDGHP, Region 3
Michael Joseph Estright	DDGHP, Region 4
Thomas Oliver Stevenson	DDGHP, Region 5
Douglas Chester Rose, Jr.	DDGHP, Region 6
Randy Wayne Presley	DDGHP, Region 7, District A
Derik Brian Campbell	DDGHP, Region 7, District B
Jeffrey Lee Knight	DDGL, Region 1
Jessie Dale Morrison	DDGL, Region 2
William Robbins Jennens	DDGL, Region 3
Wayne Brian Fryer	DDGL, Region 4
Tom Glenn Cupples Jr.	DDGL, Region 5
Christopher Allen Wehrenberg	DDGL, Region 6
Gerald Ray Hill	DDGL, Region 7, District A
Matthew David Ruth	DDGL, Region 7, District B

Certificates of Good Standing

None

Waiver of Jurisdiction

none

Dispensations Granted

July 3, 2025	Approved the dispensation request to allow Springfield Chapter No. 15 to change the date of their September Convocation to September 29, 2025.
August 27, 2025	Approved the dispensation request to allow Oriental-Rabboni Chapter No. 78 to change the date of their September Convocation to September 8, 2025.
August 28, 2025	Approved the dispensation request to allow Wyoming Chapter No. 43 to change the date of their September Convocation to September 8, 2025.
November 3, 2025	Approved the dispensation request to allow Independence Chapter No. 12 to provide courtesy work for several Prince Hall Companions at the Independence York Rite Festival on November 8, 2025.
November 20, 2025	Approved the dispensation request to allow St. Charles Missouri Chapter No. 1 to change the date and place of their December Convocation to December 1, 2025 at the Webster Groves Masonic Temple.
November 23, 2025	Approved the dispensation request to allow Bellefontaine Chapter No. 25 to change the date and place of their December Convocation to December 1, 2025 at the Webster Groves Masonic Temple.

Dispensations Denied

- none -

Representations

- none -

By Law Changes, Subordinate Chapters

November 23, 2025	Approved the bylaws of Columbia Chapter No. 17 to change their regular Convocation date and time to the second Monday of each odd month at 6:30 pm, increasing their dues and fees, and changing the date of Officer elections to November.
February 3, 2026	Approved the bylaws of Jefferson City Chapter No. 34 to change their meeting dates to the first Mondays in January, March, May, July, September, and November, changing their election of Officers to March, and increasing dues and fees.
May 13, 2026	Approved the bylaws of Bolivar Chapter No. 5 meeting ever 3 rd Wednesday and no longer going dark in July and August.
May 19, 2026	Approved the bylaws of Putnam Chapter No. 123 changing the day of their meeting to the first Monday of the Month, and going dark in June, July, and August from September 2026.

State of the Craft

As I thought of how I would describe the state of our wonderful Craft in this Grand Chapter, I kept thinking of my visits to the local Chapters. While I did not get to visit every Chapter or even every region, each of my visits were warm, welcoming, friendly, and full of fraternal friendship and Brotherly Love. What more can I ask for to sum up the state of our fraternity? Yes, there are some Chapters struggling to confer all four of the Chapter degrees or fill all of the officer stations. Those same Chapters care deeply about each other and each of us. There are Chapters whose officers continue to rely on the ritual book to open and close a stated communication instead of committing their parts to memory. Those same Chapters are dedicated to the communities in which they work and whom they serve. There are Chapters struggling to increase their numbers; those same Chapters have a deep

understanding of the meaning of our degrees, even if they do not know every word of the ritual. The Companions I have visited with may struggle from time to time but are committed to this Grand Chapter and this Grand York Rite they love so much. From the experiences I have had during my term, I can confidently say this Grand Chapter is strong, healthy, and vibrant. We still have some work to do, but I am confident that we are moving in a positive direction and am proud to count myself among Companions such as we have here in this Grand Chapter.

Conclusion

Companions, though my term as Grand High Priest comes to an end today, my service to this Grand York Rite will only continue. I'm not going to disappear and have no intention of stepping away from the York Rite. My service moving forward will likely look different, but please don't hesitate to reach out if I can be of assistance. I look forward to new opportunities for service in the years to come, and hope that my message this year will live on beyond the end of my term. Thank you, once again, for allowing me the distinct honor and privilege to serve you this year.

Take care of yourselves and each other, Companions, and remember to always BE EXCELLENT TO EACH OTHER.

Fraternally and Most Respectfully submitted,



Kevin M. Ritter
Grand High Priest 2025-2026

Move that this report be received and referred to the Jurisprudence Committee and the Committee on the Grand High Priest's Address.

Action Taken: *PASSED* / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS

Very Excellent Companion Phillip W. Engel Chairman of the Committee on credentials reported that there was a constitutional number present, with 103 voting members, 7 non-voting members, and 2 Chapters not represented – Hannibal Chapter No. 7 and Lexington Chapter No. 10.

Fraternally submitted,

Phillip W. Engel, Chairman
Kenny Shumard
Michael J. Estright

Randy W. Presley
Kevin L. Swain

Action Taken: *PASSED* / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S ADDRESS

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri,

Companions, your committee wishes to complement M.:E.:C.: Kevin M. Ritter, Grand High Priest, for his commitment to the Grand Chapter of Missouri. His many travels and hours of hard work showcase his love of Royal Arch Masonry. He has led this year with his heart which shows his dedication, thoughtfulness, and concern for the successful future of our order. His decisions relative to By-laws, Decisions, Dispensations and

Edicts are referred to the Jurisprudence Committee. This committee offers its deepest thanks for his hard work and much time spent in serving our order. He has discharged the duties of his office with dignity and enthusiasm. We wish him all the best in the future and hope that he will continue to serve our Grand Chapter for the betterment of our order.

Fraternally submitted,
Michael L. Dodd PGHP, Chairman

Mark A. Bean, PGHP

Move that this report be accepted and referred to the Jurisprudence Committee.

Action Taken: *PASSED* / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

GRAND CHAPTER OFFICER REPORTS

2025-2026 REPORT OF THE GRAND TREASURER

June 1, 2025 through March 31, 2026

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri,

While our third year as your Grand Treasurer has been very busy, I am very pleased to have Companion and Sir Knight Christopher L. Story, our Assistant Grand Treasurer, on the Office Team. Christopher is rapidly learning the job of Grand Treasurer and is actively contributing to the management of the workload. However, we still have more work to do in this next year in order to resolve the remaining issues.

Grand Chapter Clerical Assistant

Lady Debbie Hanson continues to be paid quarterly which aligns with the demands of reporting our Employee to the State and Federal Governments as well as making the requisite deposits/contributions.

The IRS 941 Employer's Quarterly Federal Tax Return forms for the four quarters of calendar year 2025 have been filed and all deposits made for Social Security, Medicare, and Federal Withholding Tax using the EFTPS portal. Included in those deposits were both the Employee and Employer monetary portions. In addition, the IRS 940 Employer's Annual Federal Unemployment (FUTA) Tax Return form for calendar year 2025 has been filed and the deposit made.

The IRS 941 Employer's Quarterly Federal Tax Return form for the first calendar quarter of 2026 has been filed and the deposit made for Social Security, Medicare, and Federal Withholding Tax using the EFTPS portal. Included in that deposit was both the Employee and Employer monetary portions.

The Missouri Division of Employment Security (DES) quarterly unemployment insurance reports for the four quarters of calendar year 2025 have been filed and all contributions, if any, made using the DES web portal. The unemployment insurance report for the first calendar quarter of 2026 has been filed and the contributions, if any, made using the DES web portal.

The Missouri Department of Revenue's (DOR) MO-941 Employer's Return of Income Taxes Withheld for calendar year 2025 has been filed and the withholding tax, additions, interest, and processing fee made using the DOR web portal.

The 2025 W-2 Wage and Tax Statement for Lady Hanson and the 2025 W-3 Transmittal of Wage and Tax Statements were filed and accepted by the IRS.

Grand Chapter IRS Tax Status

During the period of June 2025 through March 2026, REC Donald MacCormick (Grand Secretary, Grand Chapter of Missouri) worked with Lady April Dodd to complete and submit an IRS Form 1024 (Application for Recognition of Exemption Under Section 501(a) or Section 521 of the Internal Revenue Code) for the Grand Chapter of Missouri. The form had to be filed electronically using the Pay.gov Federal web site. On March 15, 2026, Lady Dodd filed the completed Grand Chapter IRS form 1024 and paid the \$600.00 user fee payment with her personal credit card. Lady Dodd was reimbursed by the Grand Chapter General Fund with Check Number 9085 in the amount of \$600.00 dated March 31, 2026. On May 2, 2026, REC MacCormick received a letter from the IRS Dated April 23, 2026, stating that the IRS had determined that the Grand Chapter was exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(10). The letter further stated that the IRS had reinstated the Grand Chapter exemption for the period October 15, 2022, to the effective date of the letter under IRC Section 501(c)(8). The next step in the process for maintaining the exemption will be to file IRS form 990 (Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax) or IRS form 990-EZ (Short Form Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax) returns for the fiscal years since the reinstatement date of October 15, 2022. The future maintenance of the exemption will be to file an IRS form 990 or IRS form 990-EZ for each fiscal year.

The Grand York Rite of Missouri IRS Form 990-N (e-Postcard) for the tax year ending March 31, 2026, was successfully filed and accepted by the IRS. In addition, the Grand Chapter Palmyra Chapter No. 2 IRS Form 990-N (e-Postcard) for the tax year ending March 31, 2026, was successfully filed and accepted by the IRS.

Grand Chapter Missouri Certificate of Incorporation

The Grand Chapter has a Certificate of Incorporation with the Missouri Office of the Secretary of State, with Articles, in all respects, comply with the requirements of Missouri Nonprofit Corporation Law. In addition, the Missouri Grand York Rite has a Certificate of Incorporation with the Missouri Office of the Secretary of State, with Articles, in all respects, comply with the requirements of Missouri Nonprofit Corporation Law. These certificates are required in order to establish business bank accounts in Missouri.

I filed the 2025 Annual Registration Reports for a Domestic Nonprofit Corporation for the Grand Chapter and the Missouri Grand York Rite, and paid the required registration and processing fees. The reports were accepted by the Missouri Secretary of State's Office.

Recovery of Outstanding Check Money

The recovery effort of outstanding checks that began in 2024 is expected to continue through the next fiscal year. As of the writing of this report, \$1,191.05 of stale RARA checks have been recovered over the past year with one stale RARA check in the amount of \$71.10 currently listed as outstanding. A total of \$1,648.51 of stale Supply Fund checks have been recovered over the past year. There are five stale Supply Funds checks totaling \$1,923 listed as unrecoverable. There are six stale Supply Fund checks totaling \$793.82 currently listed as outstanding. A total of \$1,573.00 of stale General Fund checks have been recovered over the past year. There are two General Fund Checks totaling \$194.00 listed as unrecoverable. There are fifteen General Fund checks totaling \$11,248.28 currently listed as outstanding.

Here is an accounting of the outstanding General Fund and Supply Fund checks in hand awaiting resolution: July 2022 General Fund, 10 checks, \$1,927.00; March 2023 General Fund, 17 checks, \$9,321.28; July 2022 Supply Fund, 2 checks, \$110.00; November 2022 Supply Fund, 3 checks, \$83.82; and January 2023, 1 check, \$600.00. This represents a total of \$12,042.10.

There may be more outstanding checks that were not physically recovered, that will be discovered when the records of the period of June 2022 through March 2023 are reviewed.

Status of Liquid Bank Accounts

A proposed legislative item decided during the 2025 Annual Convocation was to discontinue the Grand Chapter Leadership Fund program. Following the passage of the proposed amendment to repeal ARTICLE IX - Revenues of the Grand Chapter, Section 40 - Annual Dues, Paragraph D (the Leadership Fund program), a motion from the floor proposed that the former Leadership Fund money be returned to the Grand Chapter General Fund. The motion passed. Based on the actions taken during the 2025 Annual Convocation and with the approval of the Grand High Priest as well as the Grand Chapter Finance Chairman, I withdrew the former Leadership Fund money from Hawthorn Bank (HB) account 1726 in the amount of \$3,208.26 (without fee) in Cashier's Check 208465 on August 7, 2025. The HB account was then closed. On August 12, 2025, the HB check was deposited in the Commercial Trust Company (CTC) Grand Chapter deposit account. On August 25, 2026, the \$3,208.26 was transferred from the CTC Grand Chapter deposit account to the Jefferson Bank (JB) Grand Chapter General Fund Operating account.

A proposed legislative item decided during the 2025 Annual Convocation was to discontinue the Grand Chapter Triennial Fund program. Following the passage of the proposed amendment to repeal ARTICLE XXVI - Miscellaneous, Section 214 - Triennial Fund, a motion from the floor proposed that the former Triennial Fund money be returned to the Grand Chapter General Fund. The motion passed. Based on the actions taken during the 2025 Annual Convocation and with the approval of the Grand High Priest as well as the Grand Chapter Finance Chairman, I withdrew the former Triennial Fund money from First Mid Bank & Trust (FMB) account 7723 in the amount of \$2,040.28 (without fee) in Cashier's Check 624211 on August 7, 2025. The FMB account was then

closed. On August 12, 2025, the FMB check was deposited in the Commercial Trust Company (CTC) Grand Chapter deposit account. On August 25, 2026, the \$2,040.28 was transferred from the CTC Grand Chapter deposit account to the Jefferson Bank (JB) Grand Chapter General Fund Operating account.

On February 19, 2026, with permission from the Grand High Priest and the Finance Chairman, I withdrew the Grand Chapter Supply Fund money from Mid America Bank (MAB) account 2705 in the amount of \$10,279.55 (without fee) in Cashier's Check 007286. The MAB account was then closed. On February 26, 2026, I opened the new Grand Chapter Supply Fund account 5615 with Jefferson Bank (JB) and deposited the MAB check into the new Supply Fund account. This action was part of the move to consolidate all Grand Chapter accounts in a single banking system under the Central Bank (JB is part of the Central Bank system) in anticipation of the future change in the Office of the Grand Treasurer.

Long-Term Investment of Funds

An issue that carried over from last year was the investment of certain investable monies in long-term investment instruments.

The investable funds across the Grand Bodies are: Jefferson Bank General Fund Hold accounts (JB GrCH GF Hold, JB GrCO GF Hold, & JB GrKT GF Hold), Jefferson Bank Foundation Fund/Charity Endowment Fund Hold accounts (JB GrCH FF Hold, JB GrCO CEF Hold, & JB GrKT CEF Hold), and Jefferson Bank Endowed Membership Fund Hold accounts (JB GrCH EMF Hold, JB GrCO EMF Hold, & JB GrKT EMF Hold).

The investable select funds are: Jefferson Bank GrCH Palmyra Fund Hold account (JB GrCH PF Hold), Jefferson Bank GrKT Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund Hold account (JB GrKT HLPF Hold), and Jefferson Bank GrKT Educational Foundation Fund Hold account (JB GrKT EdF Hold).

On February 20, 2026, the Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Missouri sent a letter dated February 19, 2026, to the Grand Master of the Grand Council of Missouri officially notifying him that the orderly transfer of Grand Council money out of the Grand Chapter's Capital Group (CG1) account was thereby enforceably required. He further stated that the transfer of Grand Council money could be accomplished without any transfer fees.

On February 20, 2026, the Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Missouri sent a letter dated February 19, 2026, to the Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Missouri officially notifying him that the orderly transfer of Grand Commandery money out of the Grand Chapter Capital Group 1 (CG1) account was thereby enforceably required. He further stated that the transfer of Grand Commandery money could be accomplished without any transfer fees.

On February 20, 2026, the Grand High Priest informed me by letter dated February 19, 2026, that I was thereby authorized to facilitate moving the shares attributed to the Grand Council and the Grand Commandery, respectively, out of the Grand Chapter's CG1 account to the destinations of their choosing.

On February 19, 2026, I met briefly with Mr. Russ Bell, Vice President, Financial Advisor, LPL (our Investment Banker) concerning the plan to move certain shares out of the CG1 (9778) account to other Capital Group account destinations. On February 26, 2026, I met with Mr. Bell to work on completing the necessary paperwork for the planned transfers.

On March 2, 2026, all Grand Commandery Educational Foundation shares were transferred from the Grand Chapter's CG1 account to the Grand Commandery Educational Foundation's Capital Group (CG3) account by Mr. Bell. On March 9, 2026, all Grand Council shares were transferred from the Grand Chapter's CG1 account to the Grand Council's Capitol Group (CG4) account by Mr. Bell.

The Capital Group 1 (CG1) account now contains only Grand Chapter money. The CG1 account is tied to the Jefferson Bank (JB) Grand Chapter General Fund Operating account (JB GrCH GF Op) for ACH transfers. All purchases are facilitated by Mr. Bell. The purchase limit for CG1 investments is \$100,000.00 per day. In addition, the investment level across the Grand Bodies is sufficient that all purchases can be made at Net Asset Value (NAV) so there are no fees.

On January 26, 2026, I sent an email to EC Terry D. Coppotelli, Investment Chairman, with a recommendation to move \$51,000.00 of Endowed Membership money from the Grand Chapter's Jefferson Bank (JB) Endowed Membership Holding account (JB GrCH EMF Hold) to the Investment Company of America (Am

Inv) in the Grand Chapter's Capital Group 1 (CG1) account. On March 5, 2026, I received authorization from EC Coppotelli to make the investment. On March 24, 2026, \$51,000.00 was transferred from the JB GrCH EMF Hold account to the JB GrCH GF Op account. On March 24, 2026, \$51,000.00 of Am Inv shares were purchased by Mr. Bell in the Grand Chapter's CG1 account.

Grand Treasurer's Office

Your Grand Treasurer and Assistant Grand Treasurer continue to work diligently to bring transparency to the office. We attended the Grand Chapter Grand Officer Zoom meetings. During those meetings, we provided requested financial review briefings to the Grand Officers and answered questions that the Grand Officers asked concerning the finances of the Grand Chapter.

The duties of the Assistant Grand Treasurer during this past fiscal year were monthly reconciliation of the financial spreadsheets, processing of deposit records, and recovery of outstanding check money. The Grand Treasurer and the Assistant Grand Treasurer plan to continue expanding the duties of the Assistant Grand Treasurer during the next fiscal year.

During the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the Grand Treasurer's Office received thirteen banker boxes of historical paper records from the office of the previous Grand Treasurer. The task of reviewing the mountain of documents is daunting and may require years to complete but remains a goal of the Office.

Financial Summary of the Grand Chapter

Status of Grand York Rite Liquid Accounts - March 31, 2026

Deposit Account

COMMERCIAL TRUST COMPANY (CTC)

MGYR Deposit Account = \$33,140.08

Balance May 31, 2025	\$28,369.88
Receipts June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$11,867.20
Transfers June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$7,097.00

Checking Account

JEFFERSON BANK (JB)

MGYR General Fund Checking Account (GF) = \$5,850.00

Balance May 31, 2025	\$248.37
Receipts June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$40,309.07
Expenditures June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$34,707.44

Status of Grand Chapter Liquid Accounts - March 31, 2026

Deposit Account

COMMERCIAL TRUST COMPANY (CTC)

GrCH Deposit Account \$5,454.50

Balance May 31, 2025 \$2,970.06

Receipts June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026 \$63,198.41

Transfers June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026 \$60,713.97

Status of Grand Chapter General Fund Liquid Accounts - March 31, 2026

Checking Accounts

JEFFERSON BANK (JB)

GrCH General Fund Operating Checking Account (GF Op) \$49,320.04

Balance May 31, 2025 \$66,122.01

Receipts June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026 \$90,212.39

Expenditures June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026 \$107,014.36

GrCH General Fund Business Money Market Holding Account (GF Hold) \$1,153.96

Balance May 31, 2025 \$1,139.74

Receipts June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026 \$14.22

Expenditures June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026 \$0

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Total of GrCH GF Liquid Assets – Checking \$50,474.00

Total Balance May 31, 2025 \$67,261.75

Total Receipts June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026 \$90,226.61

Total Expenditures June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026 \$107,014.36

----- Status of Grand Chapter General Fund Long-Term Accounts - March 31, 2026

JEFFERSON BANK (JB)

JB Investor Services

Value of GrCH Putnam Mutual Fund on March 31, 2025 \$127,658.01

Contains 100% GrCH General Fund \$127,658.01

Value of GrCH Putnam Mutual Fund on March 31, 2026 \$150,940.94

Contains 100% GrCH General Fund \$150,940.94

Capital Group 1 (CG1)

Grand Chapter American Balanced (Am Bal) Contents

Value of GrCH Am Bal Mutual Fund on March 31, 2025	\$171,029.97
Contains 71.76% GrCH General Fund	\$122,731.11
Value of GrCH Am Bal Mutual Fund on March 31, 2026	\$200,802.61
Contains 71.76% GrCH General Fund	\$144,095.95

Grand Chapter Income Fund of America (Am Inc) Contents

Value of GrCH Am Inc Mutual Fund on March 31, 2025	\$111,558.03
Contains 6.38% GrCH General Fund	\$7,117.40
Value of GrCH Am Inc Mutual Fund on March 31, 2026	\$129,059.48
Contains 6.38% GrCH General Fund	\$8,233.99

Grand Chapter Investment Company of America (Am Inv) Contents

Value of GrCH Am Inv Mutual Fund on March 31, 2025	\$73,284.41
Contains 100% GrCH General Fund	\$73,284.41
Value of GrCH Am Inv Mutual Fund on March 31, 2026	\$310,420.09
Contains 27.17% GrCH General Fund	\$84,341.14

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Total Value of GrCH GF Long-Term Assets on March 31, 2026	\$387,612.02
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Total of All GrCH GF Assets as of March 31, 2026	\$438,086.02
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Status of Grand Chapter Supply Fund Liquid Accounts - March 31, 2026 Checking Account

MID AMERICA BANK (MAB)

MAB GrCH Supply Fund Account (SF)		\$0
Balance May 31, 2025	\$6,100.62	
Receipts June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$4,206.72	
Expenditures June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$10,307.34	

Checking Account

JEFFERSON BANK (JB)

JB GrCH Supply Fund Account (SF)		\$10,563.57
Balance May 31, 2025	\$0	
Receipts June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$10,572.53	
Expenditures June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$8.96	

Status of Grand Chapter Charity Fund Liquid Accounts - March 31, 2026

Checking Accounts

CENTRAL BANK (CB)

GrCH RARA Charity Fund Account (CF)		\$ \$9,161.90
Balance May 31, 2025	\$7,158.48	
Receipts June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$6,728.72	
Donations June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$4,725.30	

JEFFERSON BANK (JB)

GrCH Foundation Fund Operating Checking Account (FF Op)		\$7,103.04
Balance May 31, 2025	\$7,103.04	
Receipts June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$0	
Expenditures June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$0	
GrCH Foundation Fund Holding Checking Account (FF Hold)		\$1,011.45
Balance May 31, 2025	\$1,000.50	
Receipts June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$10.95	
Expenditures June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$0	

Total of GrCH FF Liquid Assets – Checking		\$8,114.49
Total Balance May 31, 2025	\$8,103.54	
Total Receipts June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$10.95	
Total Expenditures June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$0	

Status of Grand Chapter Foundation Fund Long-Term Accounts - March 31, 2026

JEFFERSON BANK (JB)

Capital Group 1 (CG1)

Grand Chapter Investment Company of America (Am Inv) Contents

Value of GrCH Am Inv Mutual Fund on March 31, 2025	\$0
Value of GrCH Am Inv Mutual Fund on March 31, 2026	\$310,420.09

Contains 54.29% GrCH Foundation Fund	\$168,527.07
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Total of All GrCH FF Assets as of March 31, 2026	\$176,641.56
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Total of All GrCH Charity Fund Assets as of March 31, 2026 \$185,803.46

Status of Grand Chapter Endowed Membership Fund Liquid Accounts - March 31, 2026

Checking Accounts

JEFFERSON BANK (JB)

GrCH Endowed Membership Fund Operating Checking Account (EMF Op)	\$3,698.00
Balance May 31, 2025	\$3,698.00
Receipts June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$0
Expenditures June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$0

GrCH Endowed Membership Fund Holding Checking Account (EMF Hold)	\$6,077.60
Balance May 31, 2025	\$43,029.60
Receipts June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$14,048.00
Expenditures June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$51,000.00

Total of GrCH EMF Liquid Assets – Checking	\$9,775.60
Total Balance May 31, 2025	\$46,727.60
Total Receipts June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$14,048.00
Total Expenditures June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$51,000.00

Status of Grand Chapter Endowed Membership Fund Long-Term Accounts - March 31, 2026

JEFFERSON BANK (JB)

Capital Group 1 (CG1)

Grand Chapter American Balanced (Am Bal) Contents

Value of GrCH Am Bal Mutual Fund on March 31, 2025	\$171,029.97
Contains 28.24% GrCH Endowed Membership Fund	\$48,298.86

Value of GrCH Am Bal Mutual Fund on March 31, 2026	\$200,802.61
Contains 28.24% GrCH Endowed Membership Fund	\$56,706.66

Grand Chapter Income Fund of America (Am Inc) Contents

Value of GrCH Am Inc Mutual Fund on March 31, 2025	\$111,558.03
Contains 89.82% GrCH Endowed Membership Fund	\$100,201.42

Value of GrCH Am Inc Mutual Fund on March 31, 2026	\$129,059.48
Contains 89.82% GrCH Endowed Membership Fund	\$115,921.23

Grand Chapter Investment Company of America (Am Inv) Contents

Value of GrCH Am Inv Mutual Fund on March 31, 2025	\$0
Value of GrCH Am Inv Mutual Fund on March 31, 2026	\$310,420.09
Contains 18.54% GrCH Endowed Membership Fund	\$57,551.88

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Total Value of GrCH EMF Long-Term Assets on March 31, 2026	\$230,179.77
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Total of All GrCH EMF Assets as of March 31, 2026	\$239,955.37
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Status of Grand Chapter Leadership Fund Liquid Accounts - March 31, 2026

Checking Accounts

HAWTHORN BANK (HB)

GrCH Leadership Fund Checking Account	\$0
Balance May 31, 2025	\$3208.26
Receipts June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$0
Expenditures June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$3,208.26

Status of Grand Chapter Triennial Fund Liquid Accounts - March 31, 2026

Checking Accounts

FIRST MID BANK (FMB)

GrCH Triennial Fund Checking Account	\$0
Balance May 31, 2025	\$2,050.28
Receipts June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$0
Expenditures June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$2,050.28

Status of Grand Chapter Palmyra Fund Liquid Accounts - March 31, 2026

Checking Accounts

JEFFERSON BANK (JB)

GrCH Palmyra Fund Operating Checking Account (PF Op)	\$1,620.88
Balance May 31, 2025	\$1,620.88
Receipts June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$0
Expenditures June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$0

GrCH Palmyra Fund Holding Checking Account (PF Hold)	\$1,207.777
Balance May 31, 2025	\$1,207.77
Receipts June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$0
Expenditures June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$0

Total of GrCH PF Liquid Assets – Checking	\$2,828.65
Total Balance May 31, 2025	\$2,828.65
Total Receipts June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$0
Total Expenditures June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$0

Status of Grand Chapter Palmyra Fund Long-Term Accounts - March 31, 2026

JEFFERSON BANK (JB)

Capital Group 1 (CG1)

Grand Chapter Income Fund of America (Am Inc) Contents

Value of GrCH Am Inc Mutual Fund on March 31, 2025	\$111,558.03
Contains 3.80% GrCH Palmyra Fund	\$4,239.21
Value of GrCH Am Inc Mutual Fund on March 31, 2026	\$129,059.48
Contains 3.80% GrCH Palmyra Fund	\$4,904.26

Total of All GrCH PF Assets as of March 31, 2026 **\$7,732.91**

Grand Total of all Grand Chapter Assets - March 31, 2026 **\$887,595.83**

Summary of Grand Chapter Long-Term Accounts - March 31, 2026

JEFFERSON BANK (JB)

JB Investor Services

Value of Putnam Mutual Fund on March 31, 2026	\$150,940.94
Contains 100% GrCH General Fund	\$150,940.94

JEFFERSON BANK (JB)

Capital Group 1 (CG1)

Value of CG1 Mutual Funds on March 31, 2026	\$640,282.18
Contains American Balanced Mutual Fund	\$200,802.61
Contains Income Fund of America Mutual Fund	\$129,059.48
Contains Investment Company of America Mutual Fund	\$310,420.09

CG1 American Balanced (Am Bal) Contents

Value of Am Bal Mutual Fund on March 31, 2026	\$200,802.61
Contains 71.76% General Fund	\$144,095.95
Contains 28.24% Endowed Membership Fund	\$56,706.66

CG1 Income Fund of America (Am Inc) Contents

Value of Am Inc Mutual Fund on March 31, 2026	\$129,059.48
Contains 6.38% General Fund	\$8,233.99
Contains 89.82% Endowed Membership Fund	\$115,921.23
Contains 3.80% Palmyra Fund	\$4,904.26

CG1 Investment Company of America (Am Inv) Contents

Value of Am Inv Mutual Fund on March 31, 2026	\$310,420.09
Contains 27.17% General Fund	\$84,341.14
Contains 54.29% Foundation Fund	\$168,527.07
Contains 18.54% Endowed Membership Fund	\$57,551.88

Fraternally submitted,

Russell S. Hanson, HPGHP, Grand Treasurer

VEC Christopher L. Story, Assistant Grand Treasurer

Action Taken: *PASSED* / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

REPORT OF THE GRAND SECRETARY

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri,

Companions, it has been another busy term in the Grand Secretary's office. I would like to start this report by expressing my thanks to April Dodd for her hard work, diligence, and attention to detail in assisting us in the filing of 1024's with the IRS in order to get the Grand Chapter, Grand Council, and Grand Commandery back in compliance with the IRS. Our non-profit status, as a 501 (c)(10), has been re-instated with the effective date of October 15, 2022, the original date of revocation. All three bodies are now once again tax-exempt. Individual donors to each of the three Grand Bodies can once again deduct contributions made exclusively for charitable purposes as specified in IRC Section 170(c)(4) and meet the other specifications of section 170. As the regulatory landscape continues to become more integrated and complex, we will be reviewing our processes of statutory filing requirements, and may engage external experts to do so, to review our compliance, and ensure we remain compliant in the future.

In reviewing the costs of the Grand Convocation it may be necessary at some point to charge a registration fee to ease the burdens of hosting. We do not expect that to happen soon, the costs of the Grand York Rite Sessions for the next two years in Springfield are likely the lowest we have seen for several years. But, it may be necessary in the future. The meeting space used in each facility is free, but it is supported for a minimum number of room occupancies and meal purchases.

A couple of years ago Russell and Debbie Hanson announced their retirement from their duties with the Grand Chapter, Grand Council, and Grand Commandery. Lady Tara L. Ornsbey will step into Debbie's shoes in 2 years and has been working with Lady Debbie this year, documenting processes, and preparing to take on an ever-increasing workload as training and familiarization progresses. Simultaneously we are examining those processes and preparing to simplify or automate them where possible. We thank Lady Tara for stepping up.

We were saddened to process the consolidation this year of Greenfield Chapter No. 38 with Springfield Chapter No. 15 on December 12, 2025. It is sometimes necessary to consolidate, but it is always a loss especially for an organization with such an exalted history as Greenfield.

Growth Awards

This year our growth awards are based on a slightly different calculation from past years. This year we have decided to base Chapter Growth awards on those factors that we can control, such as suspension, demits, and exaltations. We have no control when someone is called home, so deaths will not be a factor in this year's calculations.

There were 82 Exaltations, 55 affiliations, and 17 reinstatements during the 2025 calendar year, leading to an overall decrease in membership of 49 (demitted 84, suspended 40, deceased 79). If we remove those who passed in 2025, there is an overall growth of 30. Chapter growth awards can be found in the Report of the Committee of Education.

Secretary Training

Over the course of this last year it became obvious that little knowledge was being passed onto new Secretaries. Over the course of the next 6 months, we will be reaching out to all Secretaries and will be developing new tools to ensure Secretaries are aware of their responsibilities and shall provide the training to enable them to carry out their jobs.

Fraternally and Most Respectfully submitted,
Donald MacCormick, Grand Secretary

Move that these reports be accepted, subject to correction, and referred to the appropriate committees and to the Grand Officers for follow-up action as deemed necessary.

Action Taken: *PASSED* / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

Annual Statistical Report - Start: 1/1/2025 End: 12/31/2025

Total Working Chapters = 30

The following is a recapitulation of membership activity during the specified reporting period.

Total number members on last return =		<u>1,729</u>
Total number EXALTED =	<u>82</u>	
Total number AFFILIATED =	<u>55</u>	
Total number REINSTATED =	<u>17</u>	
Total number ADD ADJUSTMENT =	<u>0</u>	
Total Gain (+)		<u>154</u>
Total number DEMITTED =	<u>84</u>	
Total number SUSPENDED =	<u>40</u>	
Total number DECEASED =	<u>79</u>	
Total number EXPELLED =	<u>0</u>	
Total number DELETE ADJUSTMENT =	<u>0</u>	
Total Loss (-)		<u>203</u>
Net Gain (Net Loss) =		<u>(49)</u>
Total number of members (including Dual and Plural)		<u>= 1,680</u>

Statistical Reports: The following reports represent the Tabular Returns of the Chapters

2025 Annual Returns

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V
	No.	Chapter	Location	Chartered	EIN	Stated Convocations	Annual Return Received	2024 Membership	Exalted	Admitted	Reinstated	Add Adjustment	Total Gains	Dimited	Suspended	Deceased	Expelled	Del Adjustment	Total Losses	2025 Net Gain / Loss	2025 Total Year End Membership	% of Growth
1																						
2	0	Missouri	At Large	June 8, 2016		Grand Session	N/A	0					0						0	0	0	0%
3	1	St. Charles Missouri	St. Charles	May 14, 2004	23-7526764	2nd Wednesday	23-Feb-26	78	1	0	0	4	5	4	0	4	0	0	8	-3	75	-4%
4	2	Palmyra	At Large	September 14, 1848	23-7526765	Grand Session	N/A	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	0%
5	3	Liberty	Liberty	October 16, 1847	43-0968049	3rd Monday	28-Feb-26	71	2	0	0	-2	0	4	2	4	0	0	10	-10	61	-14%
6	5	Bolivar	Bolivar	October 4, 1877	23-7526768	3rd Wednesday	2-Feb-26	34	3	0	0	3	6	1	1	1	0	0	3	3	37	9%
7	7	Hannibal	Hannibal	May 24, 1861	23-7526769	1st Tuesday	27-Feb-26	14	5	0	0	1	6	0	2	0	0	0	2	4	18	29%
8	10	Lexington	Lexington	October 13, 1848	23-7526771	4th Monday	14-Feb-26	61	1	0	0	-4	-3	1	2	1	0	0	4	-7	54	-11%
9	12	Independence	Independence	October 13, 1848	23-7526773	2nd Thursday	22-Jan-26	66	1	0	2	-12	-9	3	2	0	0	0	5	-14	52	-21%
10	14	Mitchell	St. Joseph	May 23, 1849	23-7526774	1st Wednesday	9-Feb-26	162	3	0	0	-9	-6	1	4	15	0	0	20	-26	136	-16%
11	15	Springfield	Springfield	May 16, 1851	44-0443935	4th Monday	25-Feb-26	106	9	40	6	0	55	10	9	3	0	0	22	33	139	31%
12	17	Columbia	Columbia	October 10, 1867	23-7526776	2nd Monday	5-Feb-26	73	3	1	0	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	4	0	73	0%
13	25	Bellefontaine	Hazelwood	May 23, 1856	23-7526781	4th Tuesday	28-Feb-26	52	3	1	0	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	2	2	54	4%
14	28	Kansas City	Kansas City	May 19, 1859	23-7137508	1st Monday	7-Feb-26	50	3	4	0	0	7	1	0	0	0	0	1	6	56	12%
15	32	Rolla	Rolla	May 24, 1866	23-7137509	3rd Monday	19-Feb-26	92	8	2	0	0	10	0	3	1	0	0	4	6	98	7%
16	34	Jefferson City	Jefferson City	May 24, 1866	23-7382601	1st Monday	24-Feb-26	78	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	3	-2	76	-3%
17	43	Wyoming	Pleasant Hill	October 8, 1868	23-7526790	1st Monday	26-Feb-26	65	2	0	1	-1	2	4	3	4	0	0	11	-9	56	-14%
18	52	Tyrian	Neosho	October 7, 1869	23-7189747	3rd Monday	6-Feb-26	50	2	0	0	0	2	0	3	1	0	0	4	-2	48	-4%
19	53	Caldwell	Kirksville	October 7, 1869	43-0203985	2nd Thursday	28-Feb-26	94	10	1	4	0	15	2	4	10	0	0	16	-1	93	-1%
20	56	Nevada	Nevada	October 6, 1870	23-7526796	2nd Monday	17-Feb-26	27	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	2	-1	26	-4%
21	61	Meridian Sun	Carthage	October 6, 1870	23-7526799	3rd Thursday	23-Feb-26	22	0	0	1	0	1	0	3	1	0	0	4	-3	19	-14%
22	64	Lebanon	Lebanon	October 6, 1870	23-7526800	3rd Tuesday	3-Apr-26	59	2	1	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	61	3%
23	75	Wilson	Cape Girardeau	October 11, 1872	23-7526808	1st Wednesday	#####	94	4	1	0	0	5	0	0	4	0	0	4	1	95	1%
24	78	Oriental-Rabboni	Webster Groves	October 9, 1873	43-0443570	1st Monday	27-Feb-26	84	8	2	0	0	10	1	0	2	0	0	3	7	91	8%
25	91	Joplin	Joplin	May 7, 1880	23-7526814	1st Tuesday	24-Feb-26	31	2	1	0	0	3	0	2	2	0	0	4	-1	30	-3%
26	93	Triune	Montgomery City	May 5, 1881	23-7080440	1st Monday	#####	39	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	-2	37	-5%
27	99	Shelbina	Shelbina	May 3, 1883	23-7526817	4th Tuesday	27-Feb-26	54	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	54	0%
28	102	Orient	Kansas City	May 3, 1883	44-0415645	3rd Wednesday	#####	35	1	0	0	1	2	4	0	4	0	0	8	-6	29	-17%
29	114	Poplar Bluff	Poplar Bluff	April 27, 1893	23-7526825	2nd Thursday	27-Feb-26	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30	0%
30	123	Putnam	Unionville	April 26, 1905	23-7526829	4th Tuesday	2-Feb-26	30	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	31	3%
31	146	Keystone	Mehlville	April 27, 1959	23-7149433	2nd Monday	#####	34	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	3	-2	32	-6%
32		TOTAL						1710	77	55	16	-19	129	39	41	73	0	0	153	-24	1686	-1%

2025 Annual Returns (cont.)

	A	B	W	X	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC	AD	AE	AF	AG	AH
	No.	Chapter	Exaltation Fees	Per Capita	2024 Debits	Total Per Capita, Fees & Debits	Remissions	Remissions, 50-year	Living Life Members	Credit for Remissions and Life Members	GC Chapter Perpetual Mbrs & Not Endowed or 50-Yr Mbrs	General Grand Chapter Credit	2024 Credits	Total Credits
1														
2	0	Missouri	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3	0	0	\$ -	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	1	St. Charles Missouri	10.00	2,287.50	0.00	2,297.50	0	6	7	396.50	2	6.00	0.00	402.50
4	2	Palmyra	0.00	762.50	0.00	762.50	0	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	3	Liberty	20.00	1,860.50	0.00	1,880.50	1	4	15	610.00	1	3.00	0.00	613.00
6	5	Bolivar	30.00	1,128.50	0.00	1,158.50	0	5	16	640.50	0	0.00	0.00	640.50
7	7	Hannibal	50.00	549.00	0.00	599.00	0	3	0	91.50	0	0.00	0.00	91.50
8	10	Lexington	10.00	1,647.00	0.00	1,657.00	4	13	6	701.50	0	0.00	0.00	701.50
9	12	Independence	10.00	1,586.00	0.00	1,596.00	2	3	11	488.00	0	0.00	0.00	488.00
10	14	Mitchell	30.00	4,148.00	0.00	4,178.00	5	31	30	2,013.00	0	0.00	0.00	2,013.00
11	15	Springfield	90.00	4,239.50	0.00	4,329.50	10	31	35	2,318.00	2	6.00	0.00	2,324.00
12	17	Columbia	30.00	2,226.50	0.00	2,256.50	3	18	19	1,220.00	1	3.00	0.00	1,223.00
13	25	Bellefontaine	30.00	1,647.00	0.00	1,677.00	3	2	20	762.50	0	0.00	0.00	762.50
14	28	Kansas City	30.00	1,708.00	0.00	1,738.00	2	2	3	213.50	0	0.00	0.00	213.50
15	32	Rolla	80.00	2,989.00	0.00	3,069.00	0	7	26	1,006.50	2	6.00	0.00	1,012.50
16	34	Jefferson City	10.00	2,318.00	0.00	2,328.00	0	14	8	671.00	0	0.00	0.00	671.00
17	43	Wyoming	20.00	1,708.00	0.00	1,728.00	0	8	4	366.00	0	0.00	0.00	366.00
18	52	Tyrian	20.00	1,464.00	0.00	1,484.00	0	5	2	213.50	5	15.00	0.00	228.50
19	53	Caldwell	100.00	2,836.50	0.00	2,936.50	0	23	7	915.00	1	3.00	0.00	918.00
20	56	Nevada	10.00	793.00	0.00	803.00	1	3	2	183.00	0	0.00	0.00	183.00
21	61	Meridian Sun	0.00	579.50	0.00	579.50	0	5	2	213.50	0	0.00	0.00	213.50
22	64	Lebanon	20.00	1,860.50	0.00	1,880.50	0	3	5	244.00	1	3.00	0.00	247.00
23	75	Wilson	40.00	2,897.50	0.00	2,937.50	0	11	7	549.00	2	6.00	0.00	555.00
24	78	Oriental-Rabboni	80.00	2,775.50	0.00	2,855.50	0	8	4	366.00	1	3.00	0.00	369.00
25	91	Joplin	20.00	915.00	0.00	935.00	0	5	11	488.00	0	0.00	0.00	488.00
26	93	Triune	0.00	1,128.50	0.00	1,128.50	0	4	5	274.50	2	6.00	0.00	280.50
27	99	Shelbina	20.00	1,647.00	0.00	1,667.00	0	2	1	91.50	0	0.00	0.00	91.50
28	102	Orient	10.00	884.50	0.00	894.50	0	2	1	91.50	0	0.00	0.00	91.50
29	114	Poplar Bluff	0.00	915.00	0.00	915.00	0	0	3	91.50	0	0.00	0.00	91.50
30	123	Putnam	0.00	945.50	0.00	945.50	0	1	4	152.50	0	0.00	0.00	152.50
31	146	Keystone	0.00	976.00	0.00	976.00	0	8	4	366.00	0	0.00	0.00	366.00
32		TOTAL	\$770.00	\$51,423.00	\$-	\$52,193.00	34	227	258	\$15,738.00	20	\$60.00	\$-	\$15,798.00

2025 Annual Returns (cont.)

	A	B	AI	AJ	AK	AL	AM	AN	AO	AP	AQ	AR	AS	AT	AU	AV
	No.	Chapter	Amount Owed Grand Chapter	Late Fees	Total Amount Owed Grand Chapter	Paid	2nd Payment	Date 2nd Payment	Total All Payments	2025 Credits	2025 Debits	Cash on Hand 12/31/25	Real Estate & Investments	Paraphernalia	Indebtedness	Total Value of Chapters
1																
2	0	Missouri	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	1	St. Charles Missouri	1,895.00	0.00	1,895.00	1,901.20	0.00		1,901.20	0.00		1,753.71	11,484.30	8,000.00	0.00	21,238.01
4	2	Palmyra	762.50	0.00	762.50	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	762.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	3	Liberty	1,267.50	0.00	1,267.50	1,271.60	0.00		1,271.60	0.00	0.00	9,888.00	70,120.97	750.00	0.00	80,758.97
6	5	Bolivar	518.00	0.00	518.00	519.60	0.00		519.60	0.00		14,431.91	36,117.22	500.00	0.00	51,049.13
7	7	Hannibal	507.50	0.00	507.50	507.50	0.00		507.50	0.00		1,113.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,113.01
8	10	Lexington	955.50	0.00	955.50	958.60	0.00		958.60	0.00	0.00	6,257.17	0.00	5,000.00	0.00	11,257.17
9	12	Independence	1,108.00	0.00	1,108.00	1,108.00	0.00		1,108.00	0.00	0.00	6,402.20	11,758.80	6,000.00	0.00	24,161.00
10	14	Mitchell	2,165.00	0.00	2,165.00	2,165.00	0.00		2,165.00	0.00		6,901.47	189,983.48	42,000.00	0.00	238,884.95
11	15	Springfield	2,005.50	0.00	2,005.50	2,011.80	0.00		2,011.80	0.00		6,708.12	0.00	7,000.00	0.00	13,708.12
12	17	Columbia	1,033.50	0.00	1,033.50	1,033.50	0.00		1,033.50	0.00		1,138.86	0.00	5,000.00	0.00	6,138.86
13	25	Bellefontaine	914.50	0.00	914.50	917.40	0.00		917.40	0.00	10.00	1,698.71	78,432.49	3,000.00	0.00	83,131.20
14	28	Kansas City	1,524.50	0.00	1,524.50	1,524.50	0.00		1,524.50	0.00	0.00	4,894.75	0.00	15,000.00	0.00	19,894.75
15	32	Rolla	2,056.50	0.00	2,056.50	2,063.00	0.00		2,063.00	0.00		9,793.92	10,033.37	3,500.00	0.00	23,327.29
16	34	Jefferson City	1,657.00	0.00	1,657.00	1,662.40	0.00		1,662.40	0.00	30.00	8,249.13	0.00	5,000.00	0.00	13,249.13
17	43	Wyoming	1,362.00	0.00	1,362.00	1,366.40	0.00		1,366.40	0.00		4,274.51	12,358.77	3,000.00	0.00	19,633.28
18	52	Tyrian	1,255.50	0.00	1,255.50	1,259.60	0.00		1,259.60	0.00		3,919.81	7,499.23	5,000.00	0.00	16,419.04
19	53	Caldwell	2,018.50	0.00	2,018.50	2,018.50	0.00		2,018.50	0.00	0.00	5,858.41	0.00	2,500.00	0.00	8,358.41
20	56	Nevada	620.00	0.00	620.00	620.00	0.00		620.00	0.00	0.00	2,728.51	0.00	500.00	0.00	3,228.51
21	61	Meridian Sun	366.00	0.00	366.00	367.20	0.00		367.20	0.00	0.00	3,761.25	0.00	500.00	0.00	4,261.25
22	64	Lebanon	1,633.50	20.00	1,653.50	1,633.50	0.00		1,633.50	0.00	20.00	5,450.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,450.75
23	75	Wilson	2,382.50	10.00	2,392.50	2,392.50	0.00		2,392.50	0.00		3,862.26	48,238.59	0.00	0.00	52,100.85
24	78	Oriental-Rabboni	2,486.50	0.00	2,486.50	2,494.40	0.00		2,494.40	0.00	0.00	9,414.32	25,339.80	2,500.00	0.00	37,254.12
25	91	Joplin	447.00	0.00	447.00	448.40	0.00		448.40	0.00	0.00	2,027.74	20,826.45	250.00	0.00	23,104.19
26	93	Triune	848.00	10.00	858.00	850.80	0.00		850.80	0.00	30.00	4,740.76	17,824.98	1,000.00	0.00	23,565.74
27	99	Shelbina	1,575.50	0.00	1,575.50	1,580.60	0.00		1,580.60	0.00	0.00	1,587.13	0.00	5,000.00	0.00	6,587.13
28	102	Orient	803.00	10.00	813.00	815.60	0.00		815.60	0.00	0.00	1,542.85	19,858.08	0.00	0.00	21,400.93
29	114	Poplar Bluff	823.50	0.00	823.50	826.20	0.00		826.20	0.00		807.38	0.00	1,500.00	0.00	2,307.38
30	123	Putnam	793.00	0.00	793.00	795.60	0.00		795.60	0.00	0.00	2,271.07	0.00	250.00	0.00	2,521.07
31	146	Keystone	610.00	10.00	620.00	610.00	0.00		610.00	0.00	10.00	3,495.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,495.00
32		TOTAL	\$36,395.00	\$60.00	\$36,455.00	\$35,723.40	\$-		\$35,723.40	\$-	\$862.50	\$134,972.71	\$559,876.53	\$122,750.00	\$-	\$817,599.24

2025 Annual Returns (cont.)

	A	B	AW	AX	AY	AZ	BA	BB	BC
	No.	Chapter	Annual Dues	Exaltation Fees	RARA Donations	Treasurer Bonded	Secretary Bonded	Audited	990
1									
2	0	Missouri	0.00	0.00	0.00				
3	1	St. Charles Missouri	85.50	100.00	415.85	Y	Y	Y	Y
4	2	Palmyra	0.00	0.00	0.00	N	N	N	N
5	3	Liberty	53.60	60.00	53.60	Y	Y	Y	Y
6	5	Bolivar	46.00	60.00	135.05	Y	Y	Y	Y
7	7	Hannibal	55.00	0.00	0.00	N	N	Y	N
8	10	Lexington	55.00	55.00	0.00	N	N	Y	Y
9	12	Independence	55.60	50.00	59.40	Y	Y	Y	Y
10	14	Mitchell	40.50	10.00	45.75	Y	Y	Y	Y
11	15	Springfield	130.00	60.00	214.70	Y	Y	Y	Y
12	17	Columbia	40.00	71.00	109.00	N	N	Y	Y
13	25	Bellefontaine	70.50	50.00	193.45	Y	Y	Y	Y
14	28	Kansas City	51.00	50.00	100.00	N	N	Y	Y
15	32	Rolla	48.50	30.00	835.52	N	N	Y	N
16	34	Jefferson City	45.00	20.00	68.65	N	N	Y	Y
17	43	Wyoming	46.00	0.00	251.95	N	N	Y	Y
18	52	Tyrian	40.50	75.00	302.00	N	N	Y	Y
19	53	Caldwell	63.00	75.00	34.60	N	N	Y	Y
20	56	Nevada	50.00	40.00	36.50	N	N	Y	Y
21	61	Meridian Sun	41.00	30.00	14.60	N	N	Y	Y
22	64	Lebanon	51.00	0.00	0.00	N	N	Y	N
23	75	Wilson	60.00	10.00	0.00	Y	Y	Y	Y
24	78	Oriental-Rabboni	50.00	30.00	116.80	N	N	Y	Y
25	91	Joplin	43.00	0.00	33.20	N	N	Y	Y
26	93	Triune	50.00	100.00	1,200.00	N	N	Y	Y
27	99	Shelbina	48.00	30.00	0.00	N	N	Y	Y
28	102	Orient	46.00	10.00	45.65	N	N	Y	Y
29	114	Poplar Bluff	38.00	0.00	0.00	N	N	Y	N
30	123	Putnam	41.00	82.00	81.30	N	N	Y	Y
31	146	Keystone	0.00	0.00	0.00	Y	Y	Y	Y
32		TOTAL	\$1,443.70		\$4,347.57				

Average Age - Parameters: Missouri, Royal Arch Masonry

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Chapter	Active		Avg. Age	18-29		30-39		40-49		50-59		60-69		70-79		80-89		90-99		100+		Totals	
	No	DOB		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Missouri	6	1648	67.5	22	1.3	86	5.2	177	10.7	263	16.0	305	18.5	364	22.1	310	18.8	114	6.9	7	0.4	1648	100.0
1 - St. Charles Missouri	0	76	63.2	2	2.6	5	6.6	8	10.5	19	25.0	18	23.7	12	15.8	8	10.5	4	5.3	0	0.0	76	4.6
2 - Palmyra	1	18	80.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	5.6	3	16.7	3	16.7	6	33.3	5	27.8	0	0.0	18	1.1
3 - Liberty	0	60	66.4	2	3.3	3	5.0	5	8.3	9	15.0	13	21.7	14	23.3	11	18.3	3	5.0	0	0.0	60	3.6
5 - Bolivar	0	38	65.9	1	2.6	2	5.3	6	15.8	7	18.4	7	18.4	4	10.5	6	15.8	4	10.5	1	2.6	38	2.3
7 - Hannibal	0	18	63.4	0	0.0	1	5.6	4	22.2	4	22.2	3	16.7	3	16.7	2	11.1	1	5.6	0	0.0	18	1.1
10 - Lexington	0	53	70.0	1	1.9	3	5.7	2	3.8	5	9.4	11	20.8	16	30.2	8	15.1	7	13.2	0	0.0	53	3.2
12 - Independence	0	51	66.3	0	0.0	4	7.8	8	15.7	5	9.8	11	21.6	10	19.6	10	19.6	3	5.9	0	0.0	51	3.1
14 - Mitchell	0	134	75.2	1	0.7	1	0.7	6	4.5	10	7.5	26	19.4	32	23.9	41	30.6	17	12.7	0	0.0	134	8.1
15 - Springfield	0	134	67.8	1	0.7	3	2.2	17	12.7	29	21.6	21	15.7	26	19.4	28	20.9	8	6.0	1	0.7	134	8.1
17 - Columbia	0	71	70.3	1	1.4	5	7.0	7	9.9	5	7.0	12	16.9	19	26.8	12	16.9	9	12.7	1	1.4	71	4.3
25 - Bellefontaine	0	44	62.5	2	4.5	4	9.1	5	11.4	9	20.5	10	22.7	7	15.9	2	4.5	5	11.4	0	0.0	44	2.7
28 - Kansas City	0	55	54.4	1	1.8	8	14.5	15	27.3	11	20.0	12	21.8	4	7.3	3	5.5	1	1.8	0	0.0	55	3.3
32 - Rolla	0	103	63.0	1	1.0	11	10.7	12	11.7	24	23.3	14	13.6	22	21.4	14	13.6	5	4.9	0	0.0	103	6.3
34 - Jefferson City	3	75	71.5	0	0.0	2	2.7	5	6.7	8	10.7	18	24.0	22	29.3	11	14.7	9	12.0	0	0.0	75	4.6
43 - Wyoming	0	51	70.4	0	0.0	3	5.9	5	9.8	5	9.8	9	17.6	12	23.5	12	23.5	5	9.8	0	0.0	51	3.1
52 - Tyrian	1	47	64.5	2	4.3	2	4.3	6	12.8	12	25.5	5	10.6	9	19.1	8	17.0	3	6.4	0	0.0	47	2.9
53 - Caldwell	0	91	69.7	0	0.0	6	6.6	7	7.7	14	15.4	14	15.4	21	23.1	25	27.5	4	4.4	0	0.0	91	5.5
56 - Nevada	0	28	69.5	0	0.0	1	3.6	2	7.1	2	7.1	9	32.1	7	25.0	7	25.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	28	1.7
61 - Meridian Sun	0	20	68.4	0	0.0	3	15.0	1	5.0	3	15.0	0	0.0	7	35.0	4	20.0	1	5.0	1	5.0	20	1.2
64 - Lebanon	0	61	63.5	4	6.6	0	0.0	11	18.0	8	13.1	17	27.9	11	18.0	9	14.8	1	1.6	0	0.0	61	3.7
75 - Wilson	1	93	68.9	0	0.0	2	2.2	13	14.0	16	17.2	13	14.0	21	22.6	18	19.4	8	8.6	2	2.2	93	5.6
78 - Oriental-Rabboni	0	90	65.7	0	0.0	4	4.4	14	15.6	15	16.7	22	24.4	17	18.9	14	15.6	4	4.4	0	0.0	90	5.5
91 - Joplin	0	30	68.1	0	0.0	3	10.0	1	3.3	4	13.3	7	23.3	7	23.3	7	23.3	1	3.3	0	0.0	30	1.8
93 - Triune	0	38	75.3	0	0.0	1	2.6	2	5.3	3	7.9	6	15.8	9	23.7	13	34.2	3	7.9	1	2.6	38	2.3
99 - Shelbyna	0	52	66.7	1	1.9	1	1.9	3	5.8	12	23.1	10	19.2	17	32.7	8	15.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	52	3.2
102 - Orient	0	28	59.2	0	0.0	4	14.3	5	17.9	8	28.6	3	10.7	3	10.7	5	17.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	28	1.7
114 - Poplar Bluff	0	31	62.7	1	3.2	1	3.2	4	12.9	10	32.3	4	12.9	5	16.1	6	19.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	31	1.9
123 - Putnam	0	28	65.8	1	3.6	2	7.1	2	7.1	3	10.7	6	21.4	10	35.7	3	10.7	1	3.6	0	0.0	28	1.7
146 - Keystone	0	30	76.2	0	0.0	1	3.3	1	3.3	2	6.7	1	3.3	14	46.7	9	30.0	2	6.7	0	0.0	30	1.8
Total	6	1648	67.5	22	1.3	86	5.2	177	10.7	263	16.0	305	18.5	364	22.1	310	18.8	114	6.9	7	0.4	1648	100.0

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REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

PRELIMINARY REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS

(from the floor)

Phillip W. Engel, Chairman
Michael J. Estright

Randy W. Presley
Steven F. Ebertharther

Action Taken: Passed / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON INVESTMENTS

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri,

Companions, it is with great satisfaction that we report that, at last, all the Grand Chapter's surplus funds have been turned over to the Investment Committee, and all these funds have been placed in investments as designated by the Committee. A special thank you to the Junior Past Grand High Priest, current Grand High Priest, and current Grand Treasurer for accomplishing this long-awaited task. The end of May will mark the closure of this fiscal year. At that time, the invested dollar benchmark will then be set so that we can give periodic updates on investment performance.

In addition to the funds that were allocated prior to involvement of the Investment Committee, the remainder of surplus funds have also been placed in the Capitol Groups funds, with the majority in the Investment Company of America (ICA). This fund has existed for over 80 years, and its objective is long term growth and income. Since its inception in 1934, it has averaged a rate of return of 12.3%. *CAUTION: It is critical to understand that returns will fluctuate.* The average bear market (defined as a 20% reduction in value) occurs approximately every 4 years, with the last one occurring in 2022.

There are several things that could be done to make our ongoing management of surplus funds more efficient. First, the Grand Chapter Finance Committee needs to establish how often it will be moving earnings from the investment account to the operating account. This amount should become evident and consistent over time. Once established, a cash balance in the operating account will prevent us from being forced to liquidate investments during a down market.

Another strategy that should be examined is to utilize the Capitol Groups Money Market Fund to park the Chapter Operating Funds, which are currently held in Jefferson Banks Money Market Account. Although this Money Market Fund is held within an investment firm, it is comprised of the same securities that back a Money Market account, however it generates several times the interest. While there is no bylaw preventing this, there has been hesitation by the Chapter to do this.

Lastly, consideration should be given to changing the Grand Chapter bylaws as to the Treasurers' responsibilities when it comes to the investments. No money should be removed from the Investment Account by anyone other than the Grand Secretary. Due to the sometimes dynamic and fast pace of the stock market, the Investment Committee should be able to speak to, and if necessary, have trades executed independently.

A second option would be better utilization of a non-banking Financial Advisor (FA). Our process of working with the current bank FA is cumbersome due to restrictions placed on us due to FINRA, Jefferson Banks regulations, and our By-law requirements.

A non-bank FA could be given freedom and discretion to manage our portfolio independently under our general instructions and goals. It feels we are limited in the choices we have now. While American Funds new purchases are not charged a commission, the internal expenses charged yearly (12b-1 fees) tend to run higher than some alternatives.

Fraternally submitted,
Terry D. Coppotelli, Chairman
Jeffery L. Fielder-Bey

Adam M. Iwanow
James E. McManigle

Action Taken: PASSED / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND BUDGET

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri,

Please see the report of the Grand Treasurer for an in-depth report of the Grand Chapter Finances. With the cooperation of the Grand Treasurer and the Investment Committee we have placed out investments in a position that our money is now working for us.

The Finance Committee met on April 11, 2026, and approved the budget for the 2026-2027 Capitular Year. While investment results are still new, a trend is developing that shows growth in our investments. The Grand Treasurer and the Investment Committee are to be commended for their hard work in putting our funds to their best use.

The Finance Committee has monitored the financial records of the Grand Chapter on a regular monthly basis. This allows us to be completely aware of our current and projected financial position.

Since our last report the Grand Treasurer and the Investment Committee have been able to separate the co-mingled funds of our investment portfolio to separate accounts for each body of the Grand York Rite. This allows for better tracking and record keeping.

We find that the Grand Treasurer and his office are continuing to maintain proper fiduciary standards as they apply to the Grand Chapter.

Move that this section of the Report of Finance Committee be received, approved and printed in the Proceedings, subject to audit.

Action Taken: **PASSED** / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

2026-2027 BUDGET

The Finance Committee met on April 11, 2026, to finalize the budget for the 2026-2027 capitular year, which was additionally approved by the Grand Officers. Through the efforts of our Investment Committee, we are seeing growth in our investment portfolio. This growth has allowed us to draw some funds out to supplement our income and provide for a balanced budget. We still see an increase in our expenses, but we can absorb the increase by effective and efficient money management. The pending legislation on the Endowed Membership fund may offer the Grand Chapter additional income as well as passing on funds to the subordinate chapters.

The committee is therefore pleased to submit the following proposed budget for the next year:

Income	
Per Capita, Membership & Exaltation Fee	\$29,805.50
Per Capita, Endowed Membership	TBD
General Fund Investment Income	\$9,000.00
Grand Session, Meal Income	\$9,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$250.00
Total	\$47,055.50
Expenses	
Grand High Priest Stipend	\$3,500.00
Grand Treasurer Stipend	\$1,000.00
Grand Secretary Stipend	\$4,000.00
Clerical Assistant Salary	\$7,500.00
Employment Taxes	\$1,800.00
Bonding Insurance	\$100.00

Financial Review Committee	\$100.00
Ritual Committee	\$100.00
Education Committee	\$100.00
Office Expenses	\$6,900.00
Printing Services	\$1,600.00
Office Shared Expenses	\$2,400.00
Storage Shared Expenses	\$1,200.00
General Grand Chapter Per Capita	\$3,600.00
Annual Convocation	\$9,000.00
Grand Officer Expenses	\$1,000.00
Past Grand High Priest Regalia	\$100.00
Triennial Fund	\$72.00
Grand High Priest Endowment to Palmyra	\$500.00
MMS Support	\$800.00
Web Master	\$250.00
Miscellaneous	\$250.00
Total	\$ 46,800.00
Total Income	\$ 47,055.50
Total Expenses	\$ 46,800.00
Balance	\$ 255.50

Move that this section of the Report of Finance and Budget Committee be received, approved and printed in the Proceedings, subject to audit.

Action Taken: *PASSED* / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

Move the acceptance of the report as a whole, subject to correction and audit.

Action Taken: *PASSED* / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

Fraternally submitted,
James E. McManigle, Chairman
W. Larry Wilson
Donald E. Gilkerson

Elected Grand Chapter Officers, Ex-Officio
Russell S. Hanson, Ex-Officio
Kevin B. Sample, Ex-Officio
Donald MacCormick, Ex-Officio

PRELIMINARY REPORT OF JURISPRUDENCE COMMITTEE

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri:

The Jurisprudence Committee has reviewed the Dispensations granted and By-Laws changes approved for subordinate Chapters and all other relevant matters pertaining to the business of the Craft acted upon by the Grand High Priest.

In our opinion, Most Excellent Companion Kevin M. Ritter has complied with the statutory duties, responsibilities, and inherent powers of his office. Our Grand High Priest is to be commended for his specific interest and attention to the Craft over the past year.

The Committee on Jurisprudence thanks the Grand High Priest for the honor and privilege of being selected to serve this Grand Chapter during the past year. His recommendations will be referred to the appropriate committees for review, and we express the hope for his continued successes in the years ahead.

Our congratulations to Most Excellent Companion Kevin M. Ritter, Grand High Priest, for a successful year in office. In our estimation, you have performed your duties and responsibilities in an exemplary manner.

Fraternally submitted,
Todd Alan Schulze, Chairman
John Charles Caraker

William Gene Snyder, Vice Chairman
Kevin Brian Sample

Move that this section of the Report of the Jurisprudence Committee be received, approved and printed in the Proceedings.

Action Taken: *PASSED* / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

LEGISLATION FOR ACTION AT THE 2026 GRAND CHAPTER CONVOCATION

PROPOSAL No. 1

PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(Deletions appear in ~~strike through~~, additions appear underlined)

ARTICLE II Grand Officers

Section 9B. Grand Historian. A Grand Historian shall be ~~elected for a three-year term which shall be subject to re-election for one additional three-year term~~ appointed by the Grand High Priest. The duties of the Grand Historian shall be to collect and assemble historical data pertinent to the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons State of Missouri. Such data shall be published annually in the proceedings of the Grand Chapter. ~~In addition to Proceedings publication, such newly accumulated data will be made available in printed form to each companion attending the Annual Convocation.~~ The Grand Historian will be free to determine his choice of historical data to be compiled each year. The Grand Historian shall be free to publish his assembled data in other publications of Masonic character without prior approval of the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri. The Grand Historian will receive no compensation ~~but, if he is not a Past Grand High Priest, he shall receive mileage and per diem for his attendance at the Annual Convocation, providing such payments are currently in effect for other Grand Officers.~~ The honorary title of the Grand Historian will be Right Excellent Companion or the highest honorary title held by that individual in the Grand Chapter. (Adopted May 14, 1999)

Statement of purpose

The purpose of this proposed amendment is to provide clarity, continuity, and strengthened structure to the office of Grand Historian, ensuring that the historical record of the Grand Chapter is preserved and communicated in a consistent and meaningful manner. This amendment seeks to:

- Clarify the method of service and term structure of the Grand Historian.
- Reinforce the expectation of annual compilation and publication of historical data.
- Provide continuity in the stewardship of the Grand Chapter's historical archives.
- Ensure that the Companions receive the benefit of the historical materials contemplated by our By-Laws.

The proposed changes are not directed toward any individual, but rather toward strengthening the institutional framework of the office for the long-term benefit of the Craft. By adopting this amendment, the Grand Chapter affirms its commitment to preserving its history, honoring its traditions, and ensuring that future generations may look back upon our labors with clarity and pride.

Fraternally submitted,
Donald MacCormick, PHP

Kansas City Chapter No. 28

Action Taken: **PASSED** / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

PROPOSAL No. 2

PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(Deletions appear in ~~strike through~~, additions appear underlined)

ARTICLE VXIII

Dues

L. The Grand Secretary shall annually remit to the secretaries of participating subordinate chapters their prorated portion of the earnings of the Endowed Membership fund minus per capita. This is provided that no earnings shall be distributed on any Endowed Membership until after January 1 of the second (2nd) calendar year after such fee, paid in full, is deposited with the Grand Secretary. ~~When an Endowed member dies, the Grand Chapter will continue to receive his per capita, less 20% and his Chapter will continue to receive his prorated earnings, less 20%. The retained 20% will be added to the fund's principal to provide for growth in the fund. Prorated earnings shall be based on the member's chapter dues that existed at the time the individual entered the Endowed Membership Program. Per capita shall be the per capita By Laws of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri Revised May 18, 2007, Including Amendments and Resolutions as of June 12, 2025, 31 that existed at the time the individual entered the Endowed Membership Program. (Amended May 8, 1986~~
The Endowed Membership Fund shall establish as the Base Principal those funds received by the Grand Secretary from subordinate chapters for the purchase of an Endowed Membership. As new memberships are purchased the Base Principal will increase. At no time shall the fund draw down below this Base Principal.

Distribution of the Investment Growth in the fund shall follow these guidelines. The Investment Committee shall, as soon as practical after January 1 of each year, advise the Endowed Membership Committee the amount of gain or loss in the investments of Endowed Membership Fund.

Any gains accrued will be distributed as follows: First, the current Per Capita will be paid for all living Endowed members by the Grand Chapter. Second, from the remaining funds, 30% will be retained in the Endowed Membership Fund to fortify the continued growth of the fund and become part to the Base Principal. Third, the remaining 70% will be distributed to the subordinate Chapters on a prorated basis for the total number of endowed members, living and deceased that are/were members of that Chapter.

Statement of purpose

The purpose of this amendment is to clearly define, protect, and strengthen the long-term structure and distribution methodology of the Endowed Membership Fund of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri.

This proposal formally establishes the concept of a protected Base Principal, defined as all funds received from subordinate chapters for the purchase of Endowed Memberships. The amendment ensures that this Base Principal shall continually increase as new Endowed Memberships are purchased and shall never be reduced. This safeguard preserves the perpetual nature of the Endowed Membership Program and protects the integrity of the funds entrusted to the Grand Chapter.

Additionally, this amendment provides a clear and orderly framework for the annual distribution of investment growth. It:

- Establishes the priority payment of current Per Capita for all living Endowed Members to the Grand Chapter.
- Retains thirty percent (30%) of remaining gains within the Endowed Membership Fund to strengthen and fortify its continued growth.
- Distributes the remaining seventy percent (70%) to subordinate chapters on a prorated basis for all endowed members, living and deceased, affiliated with each chapter.

By clearly defining principal protection, distribution priorities, and proportional allocation methods, this amendment promotes financial transparency, stability, and responsible stewardship. It ensures the Endowed Membership Fund remains perpetual, equitable, and beneficial to both the Grand Chapter and its subordinate chapters for generations to come.

Fraternally submitted,

Donald MacCormick, PHP
James McManigle, PHP
Russell S. Hanson, PHP

Kansas City Chapter No. 28
Bolivar Chapter No. 5
Columbia Chapter No. 17

Action Taken: PASSED / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

PROPOSAL No. 3

PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(Deletions appear in ~~strike through~~, additions appear underlined)

**ARTICLE XXIX
Masonic Membership Solutions (MMS)**

Section 223. Chapter Secretary Responsibilities

~~D. Secretaries and IT Representatives shall log in to MMS no less than monthly to maintain access credentials and to make any approved membership changes.~~

Statement of purpose

The purpose of this amendment is to provide reasonable flexibility in the administrative use of the Masonic Membership Solutions (MMS) system by removing an unnecessary mandatory monthly login requirement for Chapter Secretaries and IT Representatives. While maintaining accurate and timely membership records is essential, requiring monthly system access regardless of whether membership transactions or updates are pending places an administrative burden on local Chapters without any benefit. Many Chapters experience periods in which no membership activity occurs, making routine mandatory logins unnecessary.

This amendment does not diminish the responsibility of Secretaries and IT Representatives to promptly process approved membership changes. Rather, it removes a rigid procedural requirement that does not materially improve record accuracy or system integrity. By adopting this amendment, the Grand Chapter promotes efficient administration, respects the time of its officers, and maintains practical oversight of membership reporting.

Administrative requirements should serve a clear operational purpose and not impose obligations that do not contribute to improved governance or recordkeeping.

Fraternal submitted,
Donald MacCormick, PHP

Kansas City Chapter No. 28

Action Taken: **PASSED** / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

Standing Resolution No. 16

Whereas, Excellent Companion William Gene Snyder has served the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of Missouri with particular dedication and sense of responsibility for many years, and

Whereas, Excellent Companion Snyder continued his Masonic service and was advanced to the office of General Grand Master of the General Grand Council Cryptic Masons International, and

Whereas, he has done much to advance the aims and preserve the traditions of York Rite Masonry, and

Whereas, his international service has reflected admirably on the Grand York Rite of Missouri, and

Whereas, his admirable and self-sacrificing example of honor and courage, placing the welfare of the Order above all personal ambition, will remain in perpetuity an inspiration to all who wear the apron of Missouri Capitular Masonry,

Therefore, be it resolved, that Excellent Companion William Gene Snyder be invested with the rank and dignity of Honorary Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri, with all honors and privileges thereto appertaining.

Fraternally submitted,

Kevin M. Ritter, PHP, Springfield Chapter No. 15

Donald MacCormick, PHP, Kansas City Chapter No. 28

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri,

It was an honor to be appointed chairman of this committee for the past year. The experience and knowledge gained from this committee will help any future Grand Chapter officer as they continue on their way to the Grand East. The committee could not have operated or been successful without the assistance of all the members and so I would like to thank each of them for their contributions and communications throughout the year. No matter how many emails I sent, or the time at which they were sent, they always responded in a timely and supportive manner.

Our first order of business was to update the Distinguished Chapter Award form. In July we made several positive changes to the form. In addition to a few technical and grammatical changes, we amended or added:

- Regional York Rite Conferences changed to the Statewide York Rite Conference;
- Added a section for awarding points for Ritual cards, new or renewals;
- Added a section for presentation of RARA in a symbolic Lodge;
- Combined the sections regarding RARA presentations in the home Chapter.

It was our goal to get this in the hands of all High Priests in the jurisdiction early in the year because we know all High Priests are responsible for tracking the points - not the Chapter Secretary!! With the assistance of the Grand Secretary, this was ready and presented to all Chapters in the beginning of September. This would allow them to begin tracking points as soon as possible. Your Education Committee strongly believes that every Chapter in the state can, and should, earn the Distinguished Chapter Award.

Education for the year was focused on mentoring new members as well as reviewing material the more experienced members may not have visited in a while. We hope the education on each of the four degrees provided insight and understanding to new members and created an opportunity for discussion in the Chapter.

VEC Douglas C. Rose, Jr. proposed the idea of creating a Missouri Capitular Education manual based loosely off the example from the Grand Chapter of New York. This has not yet started but is in the process of organization by the Committee. Finally, a Capitular Mentoring Guide, loosely following the structure of the Missouri Freemasons Mentoring Program, was discussed among the Committee which we hope will be provided in 2026-2027.

We wish to express our gratitude to MEC Ritter and to the multitude of members of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons across the State of Missouri.

Gold Level 1000 points and above:

Rolla Chapter No. 32	Raymond J. Robert, Jr.....	3464 points
Springfield Chapter No. 15	Roger Dale Lovelace.....	3125 points
Bellefontaine Chapter No. 25	James Stanley Bell, III	2290 points
Boliver Chapter No. 5	Donnie Eugene Sliffe.....	2235 points
Oriental-Rabboni Chapter No. 78	Randy C. Davis	1934 points
St. Charles Missouri Chapter No. 1	Samuel R Lemmons.....	1830 points
Tyrian Chapter No. 52	Jonathon Martin Turner	1695 points
Poplar Bluff Chapter No. 114	Douglas Chester Rose, Jr.	1585 points
Kansas City Chapter No. 28.....	Mark Russell Franklin.....	1465 points
Liberty Chapter No. 3	Jessie Dale Morrison.....	1407 points
Independence Chapter No. 12.....	Christopher Wayne Organ	1399 points
Wyoming Chapter No. 43	William Robbins Jennens	1355 points
Hannibal Chapter No. 7	Brian Eric Davis.....	1306 points
Caldwell Chapter No. 53.....	Matthew Neal Moore	1237 points
Shelbina Chapter No. 99	Tha Lee Kribbs	1131 points
Keystone Chapter No. 146.....	Daniel E. Jackson.....	1095 points

Jefferson City No. 34	Allen John Rehmer	1070 points
Columbia No. 34	Mark A. Bean	1020 points

Silver Level 800 points to 999 points:

Putnam Chapter No. 123	Jeremy Allen Lloyd	801 points
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Bronze Level 600 points to 799 points:

Orient Chapter No. 102	Steven Douglas Bright	760 points
Triune Chapter No. 93	David W. Barker	635 points

2025-2026 Lewis and Clark Awards

The Lewis and Clark Award is awarded to usually one Companion in each Region who has been recognized by his peers in distinguishing himself in service to Cryptic Masonry.

Region 1	Craig Arnold Nowell	Caldwell No. 53
Region 2	Budd Craig Gilfillen	Liberty No. 3
Region 3	Mark Russell Franklin	Kansas City No. 28
Region 4	Allen Lee Ward	Rolla No. 32
Region 5	Tom Glenn Cupples, Jr.	St. Charles Missouri No. 1
Region 6	Douglas Chester Rose Jr.	Poplar Bluff No. 114
Region 7A	Raymond Charles Province	Springfield No. 15
Region 7B	Johnathon Martin Turner	Tyrian No. 52

2025-2026 Membership Increase Awards

1-10% Increase	Jefferson City No. 34	1%
1-10% Increase	St. Charles Missouri No. 1	1%
1-10% Increase	Joplin No. 91	3%
1-10% Increase	Shelbina No. 99	4%
1-10% Increase	Lebanon No. 64	5%
1-10% Increase	Wilson No. 75	5%
1-10% Increase	Columbia No. 17	5%
1-10% Increase	Putnam No. 123	7%
1-10% Increase	Rolla No. 32	8%
1-10% Increase	Bellefontaine No. 25	8%
11-20% Increase	Caldwell No. 53	10%
11-20% Increase	Oriental-Rabboni No. 78	11%
11-20% Increase	Bolivar No. 5	12%
11-20% Increase	Kansas City No. 28	12%

Congratulations to these Chapters for their commitment and hard work. Your efforts and perseverance have proven your dedication to our Craft. Thank you so very much Companions. We recognize and commend you for the great work you have accomplished.

As always, your education committee welcomes new and innovative ideas to help spread further light. We now respectfully submit this report for your review and consideration.

Fraternally submitted,
Gregory J. Walker, Chairman
Nicholas R. Young
Douglas C. Rose, Jr.

Donald MacCormick
Lloyd G. Lyon

Action Taken: *PASSED* / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RETURNS OF CHAPTERS

To the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri,

The Grand Chapter Committee on Returns of Chapters was charged with reviewing the annual returns for accuracy and completeness for all Grand Chapter subordinate Chapters. Most of the communication between members was conducted via email.

In November 2025, the Grand High Priest was contacted by the Committee Chairman to determine his intent and directions for the committee. The Chairman then contacted the Grand Secretary in December 2025 to discuss the Grand Chapter's current process and captured the annual return submission process for that office. The Chairman used the information from the Grand Secretary and the Grand High Priest to develop draft guidelines for the committee and sent them to the Grand High Priest for review. When the review was completed, the Chairman sent the guidelines to the committee members for their input. The following was the final review process:

The committee members will review the Annual Return packets for the following items:

- a. The check for per capita and fees is the correct amount.
- b. The financial report form is completed.
- c. The annual audit form is completed.
- d. A copy of the acceptance notice of the Chapter's latest electronic submission of their 990 filing.

If any item is missing or incomplete, a record of the subordinate Chapter name, number and a description of the missing and/or incomplete item noted. After the review, the committee member will submit the findings of his record to the Committee Chairman, who will consolidate all the records into a single report.

The annual reporting period began in January 2026, but most of the reports did not come in until mid to late February 2026. The committee received twenty-four of the twenty-eight active Chapters (excluding historical chapter Palmyra Chapter No. 2) at the time of this report. The four missing Chapters were Lebanon Chapter No. 64, Triune Chapter No. 93, Orient Chapter No. 102 and Keystone Chapter No. 146.

Our review of the Chapter annual returns found that most were complete except for some 990 filings. Some Chapters had filed their previous 990Ns for the period of April 2024 to March 2025, which meant they would not be able to file their 2025 990N until after the annual return submission period was over. We found those returns acceptable. We found Meridian Sun Chapter No. 61 submitted their 2024 990N and two Chapters did not have an actual 990N in their annual return: Hannibal Chapter No. 7 and Rolla Chapter No. 32, which were on the IRS Revocation List. The IRS said that they are no longer recognized as tax-exempt subordinates in a group exemption letter. This was determined to be an issue due to the resubmission of the Grand Chapter Tax documentation. Additionally, we did discover one chapter paid .20 cents more on their return check to the Grand Chapter.

This completes the report of the Grand Chapter Committee on Returns of Chapters. On behalf of the entire committee, I would like to extend our sincere thanks to the Grand High Priest and you, the Companions, for giving us the opportunity to serve.

Fraternally submitted,
Steven F. Eberharter, Chairman
Christopher L. Story

Loren D. Lloyd
Richard A. Taylor

Action Taken: *PASSED* / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TIME AND PLACE

To the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri,

Companions, the committee has determined that the Grand York Rite Sessions for 2027 will be held at the University Plaza Hotel and Convention Center, 333 S John Q Hammons Pkwy, Springfield, MO 65806 on June 9, 2027 through June 13, 2027, with the 180th Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter meeting on Saturday June 12, 2027.

Fraternally submitted,
James E. McManigle, Chairman
Roger D. Fleer
Taz A. Meyer

Donald MacCormick
Russel S. Hanson
Terry D. Coppotelli

Action Taken: *PASSED* / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CHARITY

To the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri,

The Committee on Charity submits its recommendations regarding the annual contributions to the Masonic youth organizations: DeMolay, Job's Daughters, and Rainbow for Girls. Recognizing the vital role these youth groups play in the future of our fraternity, the Committee recommends continuing the previously approved contribution of \$1,000 to each organization for the One Hundred Seventy-Ninth and One Hundred Eightieth Grand Sessions.

Our investment performance has exceeded expectations. In keeping with charity as a core principle of our fraternity, the Committee further recommends increasing the annual contribution to each youth organization to \$2,000 and providing an additional \$3,000 donation to RARA on behalf of the Grand Chapter of Missouri. We recommend that this change take effect with the One Hundred Eightieth Grand Session.

To facilitate this adjustment, we request that the Investment Committee and Finance Committee authorize the Grand Treasurer to transfer the additional \$6,000 from the Foundation Investment Account to the Charity Checking Account and the RARA Account as outlined above.

Fraternally submitted,

James E. McManigle, Chairman
Michael L. Dodd
Douglas C. Rose, Jr

Steven D. Bright
Donald E. Gilkerson

Action Taken: *PASSED* / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ENDOWED MEMBERSHIP

To the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri,

Your Endowed Membership Committee would like to thank MEC Kevin Ritter, Grand High Priest 2025-2026, for his successful ongoing year and continued programs. Additionally, we would like to thank the craft for the opportunity to serve you this year. Over the past several years, our Grand Treasurer has had the dubious distinction of finding, separating, and correcting many problems within our treasury. It is an ongoing situation. As one leaf is turned over, another problem is found, but as those problems are found, corrections are made, and new safeguards are put in place. Our funds are well situated and as the institution of new programs and investment opportunities are found, your monies are now being properly invested to ensure that the future of this fund is strong and well maintained. Thank you for investing in this program.

Status of Grand Chapter Endowed Membership Fund Liquid Accounts March 31, 2026

Checking Accounts

JEFFERSON BANK (JB)

Grand Chapter Endowed Membership Fund Operating Checking Account (EMF Op)	\$3,698.00
Balance May 31, 2025	\$3,698.00
Receipts June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$0
Expenditures June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$0

Grand Chapter Endowed Membership Fund Holding Checking Account (EMF Hold)	\$6,077.60
Balance May 31, 2025	\$43,029.60
Receipts June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$14,048.00
Expenditures June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$51,000.00

Total of Grand Chapter EMF Liquid Assets – Checking	\$9,775.60
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Total Balance May 31, 2025	\$46,727.60
Total Receipts June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$14,048.00
Total Expenditures June 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026	\$51,000.00

Status of Grand Chapter Endowed Membership Fund Long-Term Accounts - March 31, 2026

JEFFERSON BANK (JB)

Capital Group 1 (CG1)

Grand Chapter American Balanced (Am Bal) Contents

Value of Grand Chapter Am Bal Mutual Fund on March 31, 2025	\$171,029.97
Contains 28.24% Grand Chapter Endowed Membership Fund	\$48,298.86

Value of Grand Chapter Am Bal Mutual Fund on March 31, 2026	\$200,802.61
Contains 28.24% Grand Chapter Endowed Membership Fund	\$56,706.66

Grand Chapter Income Fund of America (Am Inc) Contents

Value of Grand Chapter Am Inc Mutual Fund on March 31, 2025	\$111,558.03
Contains 89.82% Grand Chapter Endowed Membership Fund	\$100,201.42

Value of Grand Chapter Am Inc Mutual Fund on March 31, 2026	\$129,059.48
Contains 89.82% Grand Chapter Endowed Membership Fund	\$115,921.23

Grand Chapter Investment Company of America (Am Inv) Contents

Value of Grand Chapter Am Inv Mutual Fund on March 31, 2025	\$0
Value of Grand Chapter Am Inv Mutual Fund on March 31, 2026	\$310,420.09
Contains 18.54% Grand Chapter Endowed Membership Fund	\$57,551.88

Total Value of Grand Chapter EMF Long-Term Assets on March 31, 2026	\$230,179.77
Total of All Grand Chapter EMF Assets as of March 31, 2026	\$239,955.37

Fraternally Submitted,

Fraternally submitted,
REC W. Larry Wilson, Chairman
REC Donald MacCormick

MEC Russell S. Hanson, HPGHP
MEC David L. Leirer, PGHP

Action Taken: *PASSED* / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

REPORT OF EXAMINERS COMMITTEE

To the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri,

It was an honor to be appointed chairman of this committee for the past year. As one moves through the chairs of the various Masonic Grand bodies, the purpose and intent of the length of the chair line is to gain valuable experience and insight into the workings of the Grand body as a whole. I would like to thank M·E·C· Kevin Ritter for giving me, and the other members of this line, the opportunity to serve on different committees this year allowing us to acquire that knowledge. It was also a pleasure to work alongside M·E·C· John W. Siscel III, Past Grand High Priest (2016) and siphon off as much knowledge from him as I could.

The responsibility of this committee, according to the Grand Chapter Constitution and Bylaws is to:
[whose duty shall] immediately prior to the annual convocation to examine and inspect the accounts and vouchers of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer and certify the facts, as found, to the Grand Chapter.

This duty was performed throughout the year using our monthly meetings as a basis for acquiring the necessary data from the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer.

We also compared the monthly expenditures of the Grand Chapter against the approved budget for the year to ensure we were in compliance with the approved spending limits as set by the voting members of the Grand Chapter of Missouri.

The Grand Treasurer continues to work painstakingly on the Grand Chapter accounts and monies and we continue to have a better picture of the Grand Chapter's financial standing. His workload was reduced with the

addition of the Assistant Grand Treasurer, VEC Christopher Story, with whom we look forward to working alongside in the future.

There is still a lot of work to be completed which involves not only the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary but also the subordinate Chapters. We hope when Chapter Secretaries receive communication from the Grand Treasurer or assistant Grand Treasurer regarding a financial issue, that it is handled immediately and without resistance. There are still many unresolved issues which can only be resolved with the complete assistance from local Secretaries and Treasurers.

This committee is satisfied and expresses confidence that the income and expenses documented by the Grand Treasurer, as well as budget and balance sheets accurately reflect the financial position of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri.

The committee thanks the Grand High Priest for the opportunity to serve and thanks the Grand Treasurer and assistant Grand Treasurer for the work they have completed this year. The committee looks forward to continued developments and growth in our financial recordkeeping.

Fraternally submitted,
Gregory J. Walker, Chairman
Grand Chapter Line Officers

John W. Siscel, III

Action Taken: *PASSED* / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE STATEWIDE YORK RITE CONFERENCE

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri,

The First Annual Statewide York Rite Conference was held September 5-6, 2025, at the St James Winery in St James, Missouri. Friday evening's activities included a social hour followed by the conferral of the Ancient and Sacred Order of Stonecutters based off "THE SIMPSONS" TV sitcom series. Approximately 60 candidates received this coveted degree, some of the proceeds for the degree were split between RARA, CMMRF, and KTEF. It was a very enjoyable experience. I could say more, but it is a secret.

The Saturday morning conference began with presentations by the Heads of each of our bodies followed by Deputy reports and a working lunch which included a presentation by MEC Patrick Carr, Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Kansas and author of his new book "Working Tools: Your Guide to a Fulfilling Masonic Lodge Experience". Attendance for this portion of the event was about 75 individuals. Both the lunch and the presentation were excellent.

As this was the first of this statewide format all who attended seemed pleased with the activities and the venue. Continuing this format is strongly encouraged by the committee.

Fraternally submitted,
James E. McManigle, Chairman
Taz A. Meyer

Terry Coppotelli

Action Taken: *PASSED* / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RITUAL AND REPORT OF THE GRAND LECTURER

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri,

It was a good year for the Committee on Ritual and the office of the Grand Lecturer. Our Red Jacket Blitzes were very well received and many Master Masons expressed an interest in Royal Arch Masonry. Although many did not continue past the Mark Master Degree, their curiosity was piqued and I expect to see them again later.

The Grand Master's Invitational in honor of Most Worshipful Brother Emmett Bryson was held on March 7 in Jefferson City. Sixteen new Royal Arch Masons were exalted. Thanks go to all the many companions who participated in the ritual, property, wardrobe, donuts and coffee, lunch and all the other things it takes to make this day a success. Their dedication and hard work is greatly appreciated.

Much progress has been made in the ability in each region to confer the Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch Degrees. Once a year is not often enough to confer these degrees and the regions have made great strides in providing an alternative to the Grand Master's Invitational for candidates who are unable to attend that event.

Congratulations go out to all the companions who earned proficiency cards this year. At least seventeen ritual cards were earned and presented this year. One of the great pleasures of the Grand Lecturer is to process the applications. I expect to see more this year, and our ritual is in good hands.

No new ritual changes were presented to the Ritual Committee this year, but I will note that the 2025 ritual book has been published and is available to the chapters.

I would like to thank the Regional Grand Lecturers, District Deputy Grand Lecturers, District Deputy Grand High Priests and all the companions who have helped and assisted me this year. It is you who make this Grand Chapter work. It is an honor to serve the Grand Chapter and its members.

Events and Visitations by the Grand Lecturer

June 12, 2025	Installed as Grand Lecturer at Grand Session
June 16, 2025	Tom Cupples – proficiency in Part V(b)
June 23, 2025	Greg Walker - proficiency in Part IV(b)
July 29, 2025	Randy Presley – proficiency in Part I
September 5-6, 2025	Attendance at York Rite Conference
September 16, 2025	Red Jacket Blitz at Gateway Lodge No. 40
September 23, 2025	Red Jacket Blitz at Webster Groves Lodge No. 84, conferral of Past Master Degree
October 8, 2025	Gregory J. Walker – proficiency in Part II and Part IV(a)
October 18, 2025	Red Jacket Blitz at Naphtali Lodge No. 25
October 25, 2025	Attendance at the Grand Masters Cryptic Day / School of Instruction
October 26, 2025	Attendance at Region V School of Instruction
November 1, 2025	Region 5 Most Excellent Master/Royal Arch Degree conferrals
November 3, 2025	Discussion with Region V DDGL regarding Walkabout Ceremony
November 6, 2025	Greg Walker – proficiency in Part I
November 18, 2025	Red Jacket Blitz at Algabil-Freedom Lodge No. 636
November 25, 2025	Gerald Hill – visitation reports for Springfield Chapter No. 15, Lebanon Chapter No. 64 and Bolivar Chapter No. 5
December 4, 2025	Red Jacket Blitz at Meridian Lodge No. 2
December 8, 2025	Allen Ward – proficiency in Part I
December 12, 2025	Preparation of Interim Report of Grand Lecturer
December 15, 2025	Region 5 holiday party
January 7, 2026	Will Jennens – visitation report for Wyoming Chapter No. 43
January 8, 2026	Organize officers for opening at Grand Master's Invitational
January 10, 2026	Chris Wehrenberg – visitation report Poplar Bluff Chapter No. 114
January 12, 2026	Will Jennens - visitation report for Independence Chapter No. 12
January 19, 2026	Organize cast for Grand Master's Invitational
January 20, 2026	Wayne Fryer – proficiency in Part I
January 24, 2026	Will Jennens – visitation report for Orient Chapter No. 102
January 27, 2026	Tom Cupples – proficiency in Part V(d)
January 29, 2026	Submit officers list and cast list to Grand Secretary for Grand Master's Invitational
January 30, 2026	Will Jennens – visitation report for Wilson Chapter No. 75

February 2, 2026	Tom Cupples – proficiency in Part IV(c)
February 3, 2026	Chris Wehrenberg – proficiency in Part I
February 4-8, 2026	Attendance at Masonic Week in Washington, DC
February 21, 2026	Ritual practice for Grand Master’s Invitational
March 1, 2026	Review of program booklet for Grand Master’s Invitational
March 13, 2026	Kevin Ritter – proficiency in Part I
March 18, 2026	Organize cast for Springfield Chapter No. 15 175 th anniversary rededication ceremony
March 29, 2026	Lahini Powell – proficiency in Part I
April 6, 2026	Matt Ruth – visitation reports for Tyrian Chapter No. 52, Joplin Chapter No. 91, Nevada Chapter No. 56 and Meridian Sun Chapter No. 61
April 27, 2026	Lahini Powell – proficiency in Part VD
May 4, 2026	Michael Rice - proficiency in Part I
May 9, 2026	Attendance at deputies’ workshop
May 16, 2026	Springfield Chapter No. No. 15 175 th Anniversary Rededication

It also affords me great pleasure in announcing and congratulating the following Companions who tested successfully on a range of ritual proficiencies.

Part 1 Complete Opening and Closing of a Chapter

Gerald R. Hill	Lebanon Chapter No. 64
Allen L. Ward	Rolla Chapter No. 32
John C. Caraker	Oriental-Rabboni Chapter No. 78
Wayne B. Fryer	Rolla Chapter No. 32
Tom G. Cupples, Jr.	St. Charles Missouri Chapter No. 1
Lahiri D. Powell	Bolivar Chapter No. 5
Michael J. Rice	Springfield Chapter No. 15
Kevin M. Ritter	Springfield Chapter No. 15

Part 2 Mark Master Degree, the work in its entirety

Gregory J. Walker	Springfield Chapter No. 15
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Part 3 Past Master Degree, the work in its entirety

Gregory J. Walker	Springfield Chapter No. 15
John C. Caraker	Oriental-Rabboni Chapter No. 78

Part 4, Section A Most Excellent Master Degree, the first section in its entirety

Gregory J. Walker	Springfield Chapter No. 15
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Part 4, Section B Most Excellent Master Degree, King Solomon

Gregory J. Walker	Springfield Chapter No. 15
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Part 4, Section C Most Excellent Master Degree, Lecture and Charge

Tom G. Cupples, Jr.	St. Charles Missouri Chapter No. 1
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Part 5, Section B Royal Arch Degree, Principal Sojourner

Tom G. Cupples, Jr.	St. Charles Missouri Chapter No. 1
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Part 5, Section D Royal Arch Degree, Lecture and Charge

James S. Bell, III	Bellefontaine Chapter No. 25
Tom G. Cupples, Jr.	St. Charles Missouri Chapter No. 1
Lahiri D. Powell	Bolivar Chapter No. 5

Fraternally and Most Respectfully submitted,
John C. Caraker, Grand Lecturer

Action Taken: *PASSED* / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ROYAL ARCH RESEARCH ASSISTANCE

The Grand Chapter of Missouri has one primary charity, Royal Arch Research Assistance. Donations are collected through our subordinate Chapters in the State when dues are paid or during the occasional Table Chapter. The most notable event is the Annual Fish Fry hosted by Triune Chapter No. 93 which has been ongoing for the last 15 years or more. Each year the Grand High Priest is the guest of honor and this event consistently raises a substantial amount of money for R.A.R.A.

Regions 4, 6, and 7 participated in a three-region Table Chapter hosted in Lebanon. It was very well attended, with over 50 in attendance. The total amount raised from the event will be announced at this annual Grand Session.

Liberty Chapter No. 3 sponsored the Region 2 Table Chapter on March 16, 2026. The event was well attended and included two Rising Sun DeMolay members who were present to assist in various duties. VEC Steve Bright presented on R.A.R.A. and CAPD and raised nearly \$800.00 in donations for R.A.R.A.

Each sitting Grand High Priest decides the recipient of funds raised from his coin sales, and this year MEC Ritter has chosen RARA to be the recipient of those proceeds. Additionally, at the official reception of MEC Ritter at his home Chapter in Springfield, cigars were sold with those proceeds going to R.A.R.A. upon his request.

Springfield Chapter No. 15 celebrated a milestone of 175 years. The celebration was exciting with dignitaries from all Masonic bodies across the state, along with city and county officials who enjoyed a nice brunch and then retired to the Tabernacle to watch the rededication ceremony. A coin was struck to commemorate this event and proceeds from the sale of that coin were donated to R.A.R.A.

Caldwell Chapter No. 53 hosted a Sporting Clay Shoot for R.A.R.A. in May 2026. At the time of this report, the event had not yet taken place but given the fact that the event is in the hands of worthy Companions, we trust that it was successful.

The R.A.R.A. committee sent two requests to all Chapters in Missouri in an effort to raise additional money for the charity. The first was a “challenge” to every Chapter to donate an amount equal to \$3.65 for every member in their Chapter. The second was an R.A.R.A. drive in April to coincide with the annual fundraising campaign of Autism Speaks. This organization is one of the beneficiaries of grant monies from R.A.R.A. to continue research to end autism. This drive pitted Chapters in each region against each other. No other rules. Just one goal: raise more money than the other Chapters in the region. Those results will also be announced at this annual session during the awards ceremony.

Moving forward we encourage each Chapter to continue promoting this Charity in their Chapters, Lodges, and communities and to come up with new and creative ways to support this charity.

Fraternally Submitted,
Gregory J. Walker, Chairman
Jeffery L. Fielder-Bey

Kyle R. Palacios
Douglas C. Rose, Jr.

Action Taken: *PASSED* / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL MEDIA / COMMUNICATIONS / INTERNET

To the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri,

Companions, the website continued to grow with additional content, educational material, and past proceedings. There is a host of informational, and educational resources available for all three bodies and there is certainly something for everyone.

Mailing Lists	We encourage everyone to subscribe to the Grand York mailing lists so that timely event notices and updates can be shared with all. In the coming year we will be upgrading our subscriptions to provide additional interactive communication with all our members. The subscription link can be found at: https://moyorkrite.org/join-the-mailing-list/
Events Calender	The Events Calendar is open to everyone to post their events of import - Official Visits by Grand Officers, Degree work dates, Festival, Fundraisers, state level events, Scottish Rite Reunion, Shrine Investiture - all are moderated and posted in less than 24 hours.
Documents Library	I would direct everyone to the very useful forms, documents, past proceedings, officer visitation forms, award histories, all located in the Document Library. If you find something missing, let us know and we will bring it up to date and post it for everyone's use.
Education Pages	Each body has education resources containing a host of great materials. We continue to expand its content and options. Again, if there is something you would like to see hosted - please let us know.
Social Media	We continue to regularly post current and upcoming event information. We continue to encourage regional officers, and all Chapters, Councils, and Commanderies to send in, or share, event information, pictures of newly Greeted Companions and Degree Teams, and charitable events to share with everyone.
Electronic Forms	We shall continue to add interactive online forms to make the filing of reports, and submissions easier and faster. We will continue to increase our ability to move away from paper forms to electronic communications and will shortly add the ability to generate New Member Certificates online that can then be downloaded and printed by Secretaries and Recorders.
Online Store	We continue to improve the online store and are working on simplifying shipping costs for everyone.

Fraternally submitted,
Donald MacCormick, Chairman / Web Master

Gregory J. Walker

Action Taken: **PASSED** / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATIONS

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri,

Your Publication Committee would like to thank MEC Kevin Ritter, Grand High Priest 2025-2026, for his successful year and continuing programs. Additionally, we would like to thank the craft for the opportunity to continue to serve you this year. As we continue the Beacon Magazine for the Grand York Rite of Missouri, the feedback has been favorable from you our Missouri Craft and Freemasons worldwide. As this return is made, we have various ideas that will appear in future issues. So, keep your eyes open for those changes.

Your magazine continues to bring in various authors, present a wide variety of articles, and has attempted to promote not only our Masonic youth groups, but that of the different Masonic Bodies throughout the state of Missouri.

Your enthusiasm and support for this venture has ensured that your magazine will remain a monthly publication for years to come. Thank you Companions and Sir Knights for your continued support and enthusiasm in your magazine. If anyone wishes to submit any articles and/or information to future issues, that material may be uploaded to:

<https://moyorkrite.org/missouri-york-rite-beacon-news-submission-form/>

Additionally, all past issues of this publication may be found on our website at:

<https://moyorkrite.org/york-rite-beacon-publications/>

We now respectfully submit this report for your review and consideration.

Fraternally submitted,

W. Larry Wilson, Chairman
Donald MacCormick
Roger D. Fleer
Michael S. Smith
Kevin B. Sample

Kevin M. Ritter
Steven F. Eberharter
Russell S. Hanson
Lloyd G. Lyon
Jacob W. Thompson

Action Taken: *PASSED* / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC PLANNING

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri,

The strategic planning committee recommends continuing with the Grand Master's Invitational program, due to the continued success of the program over the last few years. As previous committees have stated, we have seen a renewed relationship with the Grand Lodge and have seen that relationship grow and develop over time, contributing to overall Masonic unity.

The committee also recommends Chapters continue practicing and conferring the Chapter degrees in house, especially the Mark Master and Past Master Degrees. Our ritual is our backbone; it sets us apart from any other philanthropic organization. We must not allow our ritual to fall into disuse for want of qualified ritualists. The committee would like to encourage Companions to think back on their experience with the degrees. What part(s) held some particular meaning for you? Make an effort to learn those parts and share that meaning with the next generation of Royal Arch Masons.

Presentations like Fervency and Zeal are great marketing tools that allow us to share a bit of ourselves with lodges and the committee would also like to encourage these presentations. Put together a plan to visit the lodges in your area and share the York Rite with them!

Finally, the committee echoes the recommendation of previous committees to move communications online where appropriate. Postage costs are rising, and trends continue to show that younger generations prefer to communicate electronically. Make use of social media, email campaigns, and other electronic communication where appropriate. Contribute to the York Rite Beacon, and consider utilizing communication channels such as GroupMe, Slack, or Signal in your Chapters.

Fraternally submitted,
Kevin M. Ritter, Chairman
James E. McManigle

Donald MacCormick
W. Larry Wilson

Action Taken: *PASSED* / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

REPORT OF THE GRAND MASTERS' INVITATIONAL COMMITTEE

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri,

2026 marked the 15th year of the Grand Master's Royal Arch Class and the 5th year of the Grand Master's Invitational. There were 16 more Royal Arch Masons exalted this year in Jefferson City and we are proud to say overall the Invitational has brought several hundred new members to the Royal Arch of Missouri! This has allowed York Rite of Missouri to continue to be stronger than ever!

Missouri Strong remains supreme! With the support and growth of MEC Kevin M. Ritter's Red Jacket Blitzes we continue on the path to success. Thanks to all the York Rite members who continue to step up and make the effort to shed more light on the Masons of Missouri with the beautiful degrees of the Chapter, Council and Commandery.

Respectfully submitted,
John C. Caraker, Chairman
Kyle R. Palacios

Donald MacCormick
Gregory J. Walker

Action Taken: *PASSED* / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MEMBERSHIP & RETENTION

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri,

It has been a pleasure for the Membership and Retention Committee to serve Most Excellent Companion Kevin M. Ritter during the 2025–2026 year.

In 2024–2025, the Grand York Rite bodies enacted changes to the Constitution and Bylaws, as well as the Laws and Regulations of the respective bodies. These changes require each local and constituent York Rite body to establish a committee to investigate the reasons for a member's delinquency and determine whether there are ways to retain that member. The findings are then to be reported to the Membership and Retention Committee. Membership continues to be a challenge within the majority of fraternal organizations. We must find innovative ways to retain our current members while making the York Rite of Freemasonry more appealing to both Craft Masons and non-Masons alike. Freemasonry remains a viable and meaningful organization, and we must continue to build upon its strengths.

We also continue to reinforce the Grand Chapter's legislation passed in 2024–2025: no member may be suspended for non-payment of dues until the Chapter's Retention Committee has met with him and submitted a report detailing the outcome of that meeting. This ensures that each Chapter remains compliant with the policy. We encourage continued engagement with Blue Lodges through Red Coat Blitzes, walk-about, and similar outreach efforts. Additionally, Chapters, Councils, and Commanderies are encouraged to maintain a visible public presence and participate in charitable outreach.

Region 6 has been especially active, conducting a food drive, a warm clothing drive, and Salvation Army bell ringing, as well as sponsoring a float in the 2025 Christmas Parade.

Efforts are also underway to track the number of Festivals conducted. Region 6 sponsored a York Rite Festival in October, resulting in 16 Companions being exalted. Participating Regions included 4, 5, 6, and 7. We have also seen an increase in Red Coat Blitzes, Chapter walk-about, and the wearing of Red Coats during Blue Lodge visits. Additionally, Table Chapters—such as the one hosted on January 30, 2026, involving Regions 4, 5, 6, and 7—have proven successful, particularly when open to the public.

Your Membership and Retention Committee is here to assist you; however, we cannot do the work for you. We encourage you to reach out at any time or connect with the York Rite bodies mentioned above to learn what strategies have been effective for them. A single approach will not work for every organization—success depends on finding what works best for your own body. Remember, doing nothing has a guaranteed result.

We have added 112 new Companions for 2025–2026 and reinstated 11.

Fraternally submitted,
Douglas C. Rose, Jr., Chairman
Kevin B. Sample
Nicholas R. Young

James S. Bell, III
Michael J. Estright
District Deputy Grand High Priests

Action Taken: *PASSED* / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON YOUTH ACTIVITIES

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri,

This is an exciting time for the Missouri Grand York Rite and our Missouri Masonic Youth organizations. The energy and excitement surrounding the desire to bring the Missouri Masonic Youth groups and the Missouri Grand York Rite bodies closer together is unparalleled.

2025 - 2026 Masonic Youth Convention, Grand Assembly & Grand Session

- Missouri DeMolay's 2026 Annual Convention was held in Cape Girardeau Missouri on the campus of Southeast Missouri State University Friday, May 22 – Monday, May 25.
- Missouri Rainbow's 2026 Grand Assembly was held on Friday May 29 – Monday June 1 at the Chateau on the Lake Resort Spa & Convention Center in Branson, Missouri.
- Missouri Job's Daughters 2025 Grand Session was convened on Wednesday, June 26 – Sunday, June 29 at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Jefferson, City, MO

Companions and Sir Knights, during the respective Masonic Youth Annual and Grand Sessions, your leaders, MEC Kevin M. Ritter – Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri; MIC Dennis W. Houck – Grand Master of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of Missouri and Sir Knight Terry D. Coppotelli – Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of the State of Missouri represented you and the Grand York Rite in exemplary fashion.

Presentation of the 2025 – 2026 Grand York Rite Youth Awards

The presiding officers of the Grand York Rite of Missouri have the privilege of presenting one Missouri Masonic Youth within each of the three youth organizations with its respective and coveted Youth Award. Recipients of the Grand York Rite of Missouri Youth Awards must complete an extensive application, receive endorsement from their respective Advisory Councils, and demonstrate exceptionalism in their fraternal, sororal, community, and academic endeavors.

The 2025 – 2026 designees and recipients of the Grand High Priest's Youth Award are the following distinguished Masonic Youth:

- Missouri DeMolay (2026): Hayden Absheer – Crestwood Chapter Order of DeMolay
- Missouri Rainbow (2026): Ciaera Kazuma – Pulaski Assembly #78
- Missouri Jobs Daughters International (2025): Evelyn Winebaugh – Bethel #43

The Grand York Rite is paving the way for the future of our Masonic Youth.

One of the big questions presented to this Committee by your Grand York Rite leaders has been, “how can we increase our presence and exposure within our Masonic Youth Groups?” As a result, this Committee has been coordinating actively and directly with the Masonic Youth Groups and with the Grand York Rite leaders concerning opportunities for organizational unique awards, presentations, programs, sponsorships, etc. We are excited about the future of the mutual relationship between the Grand York Rite and our Masonic Youth.

Fraternally Submitted,
Adam M. Iwanow, Co-Chairman
David L. Leirer
Larry F. Walters

W. Larry Wilson
Michael S. Smith

*Action Taken: **PASSED** / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other*

REPORTS OF DISTRICT OFFICERS

REPORT OF THE DDGHP FOR REGION 1

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri,

(No report received at time of publication)

Craig A. Nowell, District Deputy Grand High Priest

Action Taken: Passed / Failed / Withdrawn / Amended / Tabled / Other

REPORT OF THE DDGHP FOR REGION 2

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri,

It has been my pleasure to serve the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri and M.:E.:C.: Kevin Ritter.

I want to thank all the Companions of Region 2 for their efforts to grow Capitular Masonry in Northwest Missouri, your efforts are working as I saw new faces at each visit. Your fervency and zeal are much appreciated. VEC Jessie Morrison and I were able to visit each Chapter in Region 2 this year (VEC Morrison and Walters made one visit prior to Larry's health issues) and I am encouraged by the Companions and their attitudes in the region. I applaud Liberty Chapter No. 3 for the very successful Region 2 Table Chapter. There was a lot of fun, and fellowship and \$753.00 was raised for RARA.

Fraternally submitted,

Bobbie E. White, District Deputy High Priest

REPORT OF THE DDGHP FOR REGION 3

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri,

It was my pleasure to serve another year as the DDGHP for Region 3. I continue to be impressed by the commitment of the companions in this region. This year the Region has strived to sharpen their ritual and has made huge strides in moving away from ritual books. This region continues to have a noticeable presence in not only the district but in the community as well. This year we saw a scholarship fund for trade schools, and a BBQ competition that put region 3 out into their community. Region 3 does an excellent job in coordinating festivals and this year was no exception. It is so refreshing to see that the top officers in each of these chapters are well aware of, and utilize the MMS, as well as all the education materials available. This Region works diligently to bring aboard new members, and actively promotes the York Rite bodies in their Blue Lodges with coordinated presentations geared to peak the interest of potential companions. Working with the High Priests of each of these chapters we have a plan ready to move forward into next year. Region 3 continues to shine and I am excited to see what the future holds.

Fraternally submitted,

Benjamin R. Caimi, District Deputy Grand High Priest

REPORT OF THE DDGHP FOR REGION 4

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri,

This report summarizes the activities and conditions of Region 4 (Columbia, Jefferson City, and Rolla areas) for the current reporting period. Region 4 has experienced continued growth, with membership increasing

and new Companions being welcomed into our Chapters. Active participation in Chapter events remains steady, reflecting the dedication of our Companions to the principles of Royal Arch Masonry.

Dissemination of Grand High Priest Messages

It was an honor to disseminate the messages of Most Excellent Kevin M. Ritter throughout the region. MEC Ritter's message emphasizes being excellent to each other which resonates in the Great Light of Freemasonry in Matthew 7:12 "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." This rule emphasizes mutuality and respect in our interactions with one another. It further emphasizes serving as a moral conduit across cultures, the community and the Fraternity. For example, Companions from Region 4 took time out of their schedule throughout the year to visit masons in Veteran homes, widows, doing community projects not just supporting the Grand Lodge service days; but because it is what Masons do. I am very proud of the efforts that I was made aware of throughout the region.

Chapter Visits and Initiatives

Region 4 benefits from the wisdom and guidance of several outstanding and experienced Companions. To further support our Chapters, I conducted two visits to each chapter throughout the year. These visits facilitated the dissemination of the Grand High Priest's message and provided opportunities for discussion and feedback. Key topics included strategies for member participation, engagement, leadership development, and attracting new Companions. Addressing declining attendance remains a key priority, and we are exploring innovative strategies such as educational programs and education opportunities to better engage members in our evolving digital landscape. We believe these strategies, coupled with a renewed focus on community involvement and mentorship programs, will help revitalize attendance and foster a vibrant Chapter experience.

Conclusion

I was honored to represent MEC Kevin Ritter this year and I am grateful for the opportunity to serve Region 4 and contribute to the success of our Chapters. I look forward to continuing to work with the Grand Chapter to address the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead, ensuring a bright future for Royal Arch Masonry in our region.

Fraternally submitted,
Michael J Estright, District Deputy Grand High Priest

REPORT OF THE DDGHP FOR REGION 5

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri,

Region 5 had a strong and encouraging year filled with meaningful activity, steady growth, and excellent participation across our Chapters. Degree work remained a major highlight, with the November 1st Degree Day welcoming nine new Companions and demonstrating the high quality of ritual work in our region. The Red Jacket Blitz program continued to build momentum, producing eleven new Mark Masters through events at Gateway, Naphtali, and Algabil Freedom Lodges. Region 5 was also well represented at statewide festivals, and Chapters continued to support one another through regular degree work, practices, and shared events.

Ritual development remained a priority, and monthly open/close and degree practices at Nobel Lodge helped strengthen confidence and consistency across the region. These practices have been well received and are laying the groundwork for future ritual awards and recognition. Official visits were completed on schedule, with positive engagement and strong hospitality shown by every Chapter.

Fellowship and community spirit were evident throughout the year. The annual Region 5 Holiday Party, despite a weather delay, was a wonderful success, bringing together Chapter, Council, and Commandery for a

well-attended Table Council and raising money for CMMRF. Coin sales were very strong, and additional funds were raised for RARA through the November 1st degree-day contributions.

Overall, Region 5 continues to move forward with energy and purpose. Membership growth, strong ritual engagement, successful events, and active participation across the Region all point to a bright and productive year ahead. The dedication shown by our Companions reflects a Region committed to excellence, fellowship, and the ongoing strengthening of our Royal Arch community.

Thomas O. Stevenson, District Deputy Grand High Priest

REPORT OF THE DDGHP FOR REGION 6

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri,

This report summarizes the activities and condition of Region 6 (Wilson Chapter No. 75 and Poplar Bluff Chapter No. 114), for the current reporting period. Region 6 continues to experience steady growth, with membership increasing and new Companions being welcomed into our Chapters. Active participation in Chapter events remains strong, reflecting our Companions' dedication to the principles of Royal Arch Masonry.

Dissemination of Grand High Priest Messages

On October 3–4, 2025, Region 6 hosted its annual York Rite Festival. We received excellent support from Regions 4, 5, and 7. A total of 16 candidates participated. In addition, Companion Christopher Allen Wehrenberg received his Proficiency Card. Poplar Bluff Chapter No. 114 hosted Most Excellent Companion Kevin Ritter for his official visit on 09 April 2026, and Wilson Chapter No. 75 hosted Most Excellent Companion Kevin M. Ritter on 22 April 2026 for his official visit.

Chapter Visits and Initiatives

Region 6 benefits from the wisdom and guidance of several outstanding and experienced Companions: Bill Ambro Humble, Christopher Allen Wehrenberg, Homer Ivan Markhart, and Dennis Wayne Houck.

To further support our two Chapters, I conducted two visits to each Chapter. The first visits were official visits, followed by second visits later in the year:

Chapter Name	First Visit	Second Visit
Wilson Chapter No. 75	November 2025	April 2026
Poplar Bluff Chapter No. 114	August 2025	April 2026

Both Chapters continue to improve their ritual work, particularly focusing on the six-man opening. With the assistance of the aforementioned Companions, Chapter education is being presented at all meetings. The development of future regional leaders remains strong, ensuring a continued presence and growth of Royal Arch Masonry in this area of the state.

Wilson Chapter No. 75 and Poplar Bluff Chapter No. 114 are actively participating in the Chapter Achievement Award, Lewis and Clark Nomination, and Growth Awards programs. They are also engaged in

York Rite Talks focused on membership growth and charitable initiatives such as the Royal Arch Research Assistance (RARA) program and “Penny a Day.”

Additionally, Region 6 supported the Region 4-5-6 Table Chapter held in Lebanon, Missouri on 30 January 2026.

Over the past 36 months, Region 6 has hosted two York Rite Festivals and is planning another for December 2026. Companion Homer Ivan Markhart, along with Region 6 leadership, continues to work with DeSoto with the goal of establishing it as a future Chapter.

Conclusion

I am honored to have represented Most Excellent Companion Kevin M. Ritter this year. In addition, I am grateful for the opportunity to serve Region 6 and contribute to the success of our Chapters. I look forward to continued collaboration with the Grand Chapter to address the challenges and opportunities ahead, ensuring a bright future and sustained success for Royal Arch Masonry in Region 6. *“Be Excellent to each other”*.

Fraternally submitted,
Douglas C. Rose, Jr.,
Deputy Grand High Priest

REPORT OF THE DDGHP FOR REGION 7A

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri,

It has been a pleasure to serve MEC Kevin Ritter, Grand High Priest and the companions of Region 7A as District Deputy Grand High Priest during the year of 2025/2026.

We have had a good year in Region 7A, Chapters have really made some gains and are doing a good job of opening and closing in due form from memory. Bolivar Chapter No. 5 has made great strides this year in all the chairs in doing the floor work correctly and knowing all their parts without the books. Springfield Chapter No. 15 had good growth this year. Lebanon Chapter No. 64 has great leadership in several of the chairs and do outstanding work at all meetings and degrees. We lost Greenfield Chapter No. 38 to consolidation with Springfield Chapter No. 15. All the Chapters work well with each other in putting on degrees and helping outside the area also.

We had a ritual contest this year between the chapters in Region 7A on opening and closing. They were evaluated on ritual and the floor work. Bolivar Chapter No. 5 won the award this year scoring 463 points out of a possible 500. In December Springfield Chapter No. 15 visited Bolivar Chapter No. 5 and arrested the Traveling Gavel.

Again, it was an honor to serve this year as DDGHP and I look forward to more growth in the upcoming year. We will again be holding the ritual contest between the chapters and hope to see more visiting between the chapters and continuing to help each other with degrees.

Fraternally submitted,
Randy W. Presley,
District Deputy Grand High Priest

REPORT OF THE DDGHP FOR REGION 7B

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri,

During my tenure, I conducted official visits to all our chapters within Region 7B. The chapters visited include Meridian Sun Chapter No. 61 in Carthage, Tyrian Chapter No. 52 in Neosho, Joplin Chapter No. 91 in Joplin, and Nevada Chapter No. 56 in Nevada.

- October 13: Nevada Chapter No. 56
- October 16: Meridian Sun Chapter No. 61
- October 21: Tyrian Chapter No. 52
- November 7: Joplin Chapter No. 91

Programs and Initiatives

We are actively utilizing the “That Fervency and Zeal” program to engage eighteen blue lodges throughout Region 7B. The cast for this program is composed of members from Tyrian Chapter No. 52, Meridian Sun Chapter No. 61, and Joplin Chapter No. 91. Thus far, we have completed outreach to five blue lodges and intend to finish visiting the remaining lodges in the coming months.

Service and Acknowledgment

I am honored to have represented Most Excellent Companion Kevin Ritter this year. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve Region 7B and contribute to the ongoing success of our Chapters. I look forward to continuing my work with the Grand Chapter, addressing challenges and opportunities as they arise, and ensuring a bright future for Royal Arch Masonry in our region.

Faternally submitted,
Derik B. Campbell, Region 7B District Deputy Grand High Priest

REPORT OF THE ORDER OF HIGH PRESTHOOD

The Order of High Priesthood is an association for past and current High Priests of Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, sometimes referred to as the Anointed Order of High Priesthood. In antiquity, this degree was known as the Order of Melchizedek. The Holy Order of High Priesthood tells the story of Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and his encounter with Melchizedek, High Priest of Salem. The candidate is then solemnly anointed, consecrated, and set apart to the Holy Order of High Priesthood. If you have been or currently are, the High Priest of your Chapter, you should consider receiving this degree, as it furthers your knowledge and understanding of the Royal Arch Degrees.

The Annual Convention of the Anointed Order of High Priesthood of Missouri was held on Thursday, June 12, 2025, at 1:30 p.m. in Ballroom A of the Marriott Country Club Plaza Hotel in Kansas City, Missouri. Under the leadership of Excellent President Bobbie White, the Order was conferred upon twelve Missouri candidates. Each candidate had been certified by the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri as having served, or being then serving, as High Priest of his respective Chapter.

The twelve candidates, having been properly prepared, were received, anointed, consecrated, and set apart to the Holy Order of High Priesthood. The Order was conferred by a special ritual team appointed by the President, and the team presented a very impressive exemplification of the Order. The continued use of a dedicated ceremonial cast remains one of the strengths of this Order and helps preserve the dignity, solemnity, and beauty of the degree.

During the business of the Convention, the proceedings of the 2024 Convention were read, corrected, and approved. The Treasurer’s report was received, including balances in the Bank of Franklin County certificate of

deposit, savings account, and operating funds. The Order also continued its support of proper ceremonial work and benevolent traditions, including expenses related to the Past Grand High Priest apron, degree supplies, and ritual printing. A motion was also made and approved to purchase up to twenty Bibles for future use in the ceremonies.

The officers for the 2025–2026 term were elected and installed.

President:	Mitchell C. Weinsting
Vice President:	George M. Merkle
Chaplain:	Ronald L. Skiles
Secretary :	Jeff A. Stokes
Treasurer	Christopher L. Story
Master of Ceremonies :	Kevin M. Ritter
Conductor:	Gregory J. Walker
Herald:	Jacob W. Thompson
Steward:	Richard A. Riepe
Sentinel:	John C. Caraker

Companion Terry Coppotelli also presented Excellent Companion Bobbie White with his Past Excellent President's jewel, and Excellent Past President White expressed his appreciation to the cast and officers for their outstanding work.

In closing, the attaining of the Order of High Priesthood should be the goal of every High Priest. If you are not yet a member, you should be. Petitions are available at the literature desk.

Fraternally submitted,
Jeff A. Stokes, Secretary and Chairman

2025-2026 Grand Chapter Officers

